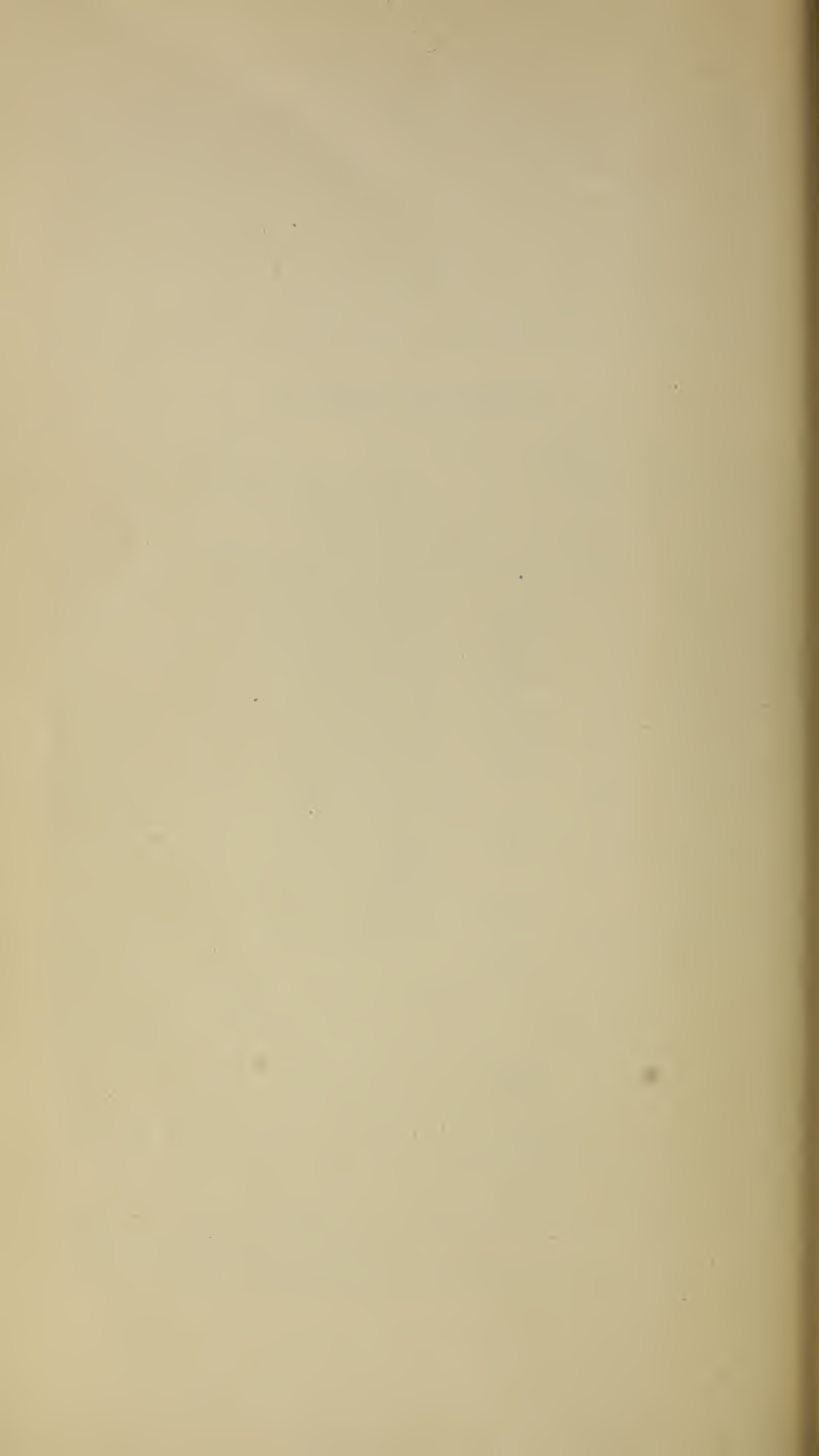


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# FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE UNITED STATES.

BY

JOHN HAMILTON,  
*Farmers' Institute Specialist, Office of Experiment Stations.*

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[Reprint from Annual Report of the Office of Experiment Stations for  
the year ended June 30, 1903.]

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# FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE UNITED STATES.

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The demand for exact information of a kind to be of assistance to the practical farmer has resulted in the establishing of farmers' institutes. The work has developed so rapidly and has reached such proportions as to now be organized in almost all of the States and Territories, and has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the effort to improve agricultural conditions in the United States. No common or uniform system has been adopted by the States, but each is conducting its work for the most part according to methods inaugurated when the movement first began, and when there had been but little experience to guide in their constitution.

The formation of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers was the first attempt to secure uniformity. Through the influence of this association the directors of institutes have had brought to their attention the varying degrees of success that have been secured from the use of different methods, with the result that the most successful are being generally adopted and thereby a greater degree of uniformity is being secured. The action of the National Department of Agriculture in taking up this work in a systematic way through the appointment of a special officer to give his entire attention to aiding in its development promises to be of service in this direction. The fact that there is a central office to which application can be made for information respecting institutes, and where statistical data can be gathered for the benefit of the State directors and institute lecturers, will do much to bring about a closer union of the workers and greater uniformity in their methods. During the few months in which this office has been in existence, the farmers' institute specialist has perfected the list of State directors, and has secured a considerable amount of statistical information that shows approximately the condition of the institutes throughout the country. Expressions of interest in what the Department is undertaking in aid of this work and many offers of cooperation have been received from the State directors and institute lecturers.

As a matter of record it may be well to state that Congress, at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, provided at its last session

for the appointment of a farmers' institute specialist in the Office of Experiment Stations in the Department of Agriculture, and appropriated the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of meeting the necessary expenses. The duties of this officer, as stated in the act making the appropriation, are "to investigate and report upon the organization and progress of farmers' institutes in the several States and Territories, and upon similar organizations in foreign countries, with special suggestions of plans and methods for making such organizations more effective for the dissemination of the results of the work of the Department of Agriculture and the experiment stations and of improved methods of agricultural practice." The institute specialist entered upon his duties on the 1st of April, 1903.

Inasmuch as there has been no precedent to be followed or plan formulated, it was necessary first of all to define the character and outline the scope of the work that the institute officer should undertake. It was manifest that the relation of the Department to the institute work in the several States must of necessity be largely advisory and in the way of securing and sending out to the State authorities information respecting the condition and progress of the work throughout the country.

It was agreed that every effort should be made to strengthen the work in each State by aiding in perfecting their institute organizations and by assisting in improving and increasing their lecture force, and that the channels through which the Department ought to operate should be those which each State has created for the management and control of the institute work within its limits.

As soon as this had been settled the work of securing definite information in regard to the condition of the farmers' institutes in the several States was taken up. Requests were sent out to the State directors asking for copies of the laws under which the institutes are organized and operated in their States, and also for information as to the amount of money available for institute purposes for the year ended June 30, 1903, as well as for that ending June 30, 1904. There was general response to these inquiries, and copies of the laws have been secured and arranged for publication.

A comparison of the laws and of the reports of the superintendents in States in which institutes exist shows that the control of the work throughout the country is by no means uniform. In 21 States and Territories the management is in the hands of the State boards of agriculture or boards of similar character. In 21 States and Territories it is in the hands of the agricultural college or experiment station officers, and in 5 others the control is vested in special boards constituted for the purpose.

In a number of States the local institutes are organized under laws which specify their duties and prescribe their form of organization.



In such States, therefore, the local institute organizations are permanent in their character and are obliged to report annually to the State superintendent, showing that they have complied with the laws constituting them, before they can receive any appropriation for their support. In a few States no local boards of institute officers exist, but the State director selects from year to year a correspondent in each county, and to these correspondents the work of advertising the meetings, selecting local committees, renting halls, and other preliminary arrangements is committed. All of the directors recognize the need for some form of local assistance to relieve them of minor details, and the tendency is in the direction of legally constituted county societies, or institutes, to take charge of the purely local work, leaving to the State officers that of providing for the districting of the State into sections, fixing dates of institutes in the several sections, and of supplying to each a corps of speakers selected and paid by the State director to assist in conducting the institutes.

Fourteen States held annual round-up institutes last year. In some instances these meetings were confined to the lecture force. In others the local directors of institutes were also included, while others included in the round-up meeting lecturers, local managers, and the general farming public. In all cases the directors have found that these annual meetings of the workers for conference have been highly advantageous in creating enthusiasm and in securing greater uniformity of method among those who are intrusted with the organization and conduct of the work. Prominent lecturers and specialists from other States are frequently invited to these meetings, who present new methods, found to be successful elsewhere, for the consideration of their hearers.

#### NATIONAL MEETING OF INSTITUTE WORKERS.

A meeting in many respects similar to the State round-up was held in June, 1903, by the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers, at Toronto, Canada. Seventeen States of the Union were represented by delegates, and several of the Provinces of the Dominion of Canada. A full stenographic record of the proceedings was made and has been published as Bulletin No. 138 of this Office. One of the most important subjects brought before that meeting was that of interesting the sons and daughters of farmers in the institute work. Facts were presented showing that it is possible to interest the boys and girls of the country in agriculture so as to secure their attendance at the institute meetings, and that it is also possible to induce many of them to enter upon a course of study suited to fit them to enter the agricultural college of their State. This feature of the institute ought to be carefully considered and some method devised that can be generally adopted which will create in the minds of young people a desire for

and a better appreciation and knowledge of farm operations, and that will lead them to the agricultural college for the information which they need. One means that has been found effective in securing the results indicated is that of prescribing some simple experiments in the growing of crops, to be conducted by country children, upon which each is to report to a subsequent institute and submit also a sample of the product in competition for some prize or other award in recognition of its merits. The close attention demanded by the care of a growing crop during the season develops powers of observation that become more discriminating and acute each year, and leads eventually to the desire for and the careful study of literature which explains the scientific phenomena involved in the operations which they have conducted. The principle which this method of developing interest involves is capable of application in a great variety of ways, and is the lever that must be used if the children of farmers are to be lifted out of the monotony and drudgery of the old farm routine.

### INTEREST INCREASING.

The interest manifested in the farmers' institutes is seen in the action of the legislatures of the several States and of the officers having control of the work in making appropriations for their support. Amounts varying from \$35 in the Territory of Hawaii to \$20,000 in the State of New York show the extremes, the aggregate for the 45 States and Territories reporting being \$187,226. The appropriations for the coming season, as shown by the reports of 40 States and Territories, amounts to \$210,975. If the States not reporting appropriate sums equal to those of last year, the total for the coming season will reach \$214,729, or \$27,503 more than was appropriated for the year just closed. It may be of interest to know that where the institutes have been longest in operation the appropriations are correspondingly large. New York \$20,000; Pennsylvania \$15,000 for the past season and for the next year \$17,500; Ohio \$16,981; Wisconsin \$12,000; Illinois \$18,150; Indiana \$10,000; Minnesota \$16,500; Michigan \$7,500. Other States with smaller agricultural population have been equally liberal: West Virginia \$5,451; Vermont \$5,000; Maryland \$4,000; Maine \$3,000; Florida \$2,500, and California \$4,000.

Institutes were held in all of the 52 States and Territories excepting 6—3 States and 3 Territories. The attendance has been increased over that of last year, the reports showing 904,654 for this year as against 819,999 for the previous year. The real advance numerically is greater than these figures indicate. The method of computing averages for the attendance was changed this year upon the recommendation of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers, with the result of reducing the number reported in the four States of Pennsyl-

vania, Michigan, Idaho, and North Dakota 99,481. That this falling off is not real, but is occasioned by the new method of averaging, is shown by the fact that these 4 States held 126 more institutes this year than last, showing conclusively that the interest is increasing instead of diminishing, as the figures unexplained would indicate. If this correction is made, the attendance for the past year exceeds that of the previous year by 184,136.

The total number of institutes was 3,179. One thousand three hundred and fifty-nine were one-day institutes; 1,637 were two-day, and 77 were three-day and over. A more accurate understanding of the amount of work accomplished is shown by the number of sessions held, which amounted to 9,570 during the year. These meetings were addressed by 924 lecturers employed by the State directors and by about three times as many more employed by the local managers of institutes, making a total approximating 4,000 persons who gave instruction at the institutes during the year. One hundred and ninety-six of these were members of the agricultural college or experiment station staffs, who contributed 1,666 days of time to this work, attending in all 752 institutes.

### EXTENSION OF THE WORK.

The agricultural population of the United States was not less than 27,000,000 at the date of the last census. Before this large number of our citizens can be brought in touch with the institute movement, it is manifest that it will be necessary to greatly extend the work and effect an organization that will be compact in its structure and systematic in its operation, having definite plans for coming into contact with every farmer's family and for bringing to these workers in the field of agriculture the precise kind of information which the individual most needs.

The necessity for a greater number of competent lecturers to give instruction in institutes is felt in every State. In response to a circular letter recently sent out to the directors of institutes asking for the names of lecturers who have been in their employ during the previous year on the State lecture force, there have been received something over 850 names. An examination of the reports of 623 lecturers shows that 287 of them had college degrees, 138 had taken partial college courses, 108 had the advantage of normal or high school training, and 90 were practical specialists, having had ordinary educational advantages. Five States each reported over 50 members on their lecture corps; 10 States between 20 and 50; 12 States reported between 10 and 20; 12 States reported between 5 and 10. One State reported but 1, and another large agricultural State only 3. A number of States reported scarcely any names outside of those of persons connected with their agricultural college or experiment station staffs.



It is clear that the first great need is some effective method for increasing the number of teachers capable of giving instruction along the lines of agricultural science. The number of specially educated and carefully trained instructors in agriculture is at present limited. Many of the most competent men graduated by the agricultural colleges each year are being engaged by the colleges and stations for the work of instruction, while others are employed in directing farm operations on a large scale for companies, or on the estates of wealthy capitalists, and are therefore fully occupied with the duties that they have assumed. Their time is thus preempted in a way that makes it impracticable for them to devote any considerable portion of it to the general work of educational extension in the institute field.

It will doubtless be many years before a sufficient number of highly educated and liberally trained scientists can be had to supply the demands of the institute work. On the other hand it might be possible, through the cooperation of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations and the National Department of Agriculture, to equip a large number of practical men along at least one line, or in a single specialty, so as to make them capable teachers in that respect. To do this there should be organized some system by which men who have made a life pursuit of some phase of agricultural practice can be discovered and can be furnished with the latest and best information relating to their specialty. These men should be sought out in every State, their names listed and correspondence opened with the view of interesting them in perfecting their education.

To this end courses of study might be prepared by the agricultural colleges and by this Department under the correspondence system, which would enable these specialists to supplement their practical experience with the scientific training that each needs for the effective presentation of that which he undertakes to teach. It might be well also for the agricultural colleges to consider the practicability of establishing normal courses for farmers' institute instructors which would enable the institute lecturers to attend certain lectures and engage in appropriate studies and courses of reading, not for general culture, but for information along specific lines, permitting each student to select topics relating to his specialty. From time to time the body of students in attendance upon these institute courses could be assembled for general lectures upon the art of teaching and the practical methods of institute work. Examinations could be required of each student in the specialty which he has selected, and a suitable certificate of proficiency be given by the college which would be of service in securing invitations for institute engagements. This course ought perhaps to extend through several weeks and include a system of laboratory and field practice that would give the students some insight into the methods pursued in research work.

**COOPERATIVE EXPERIMENTS FOR INSTITUTE LECTURERS.**

The training of men for lecture service can also be assisted by cooperation on the part of the experiment stations. Original research work must always be in the hands and under the control of men of the highest scientific ability, but the verification of results which they have obtained and the demonstration of truths which the stations wish to disseminate could be greatly assisted by availing themselves of careful, practical specialists working under station direction in various localities throughout the State. Such cooperation has been tried in several of the States and in the Province of Ontario, Canada, with results that are convincing as to their value to the State and as to their strengthening influence upon the individuals who have conducted the work.

An instance is given where experimenters numbering 3,845, located in all parts of a province, have recently reported to their experiment station the results of their work for 1903, which was planned and directed by the station officers. Fruits, grains, vegetables, grass crops, and animals have been tested in this way simultaneously upon all soils in many localities and under varying conditions. The results compared and tabulated have been of great value to the citizens of the several districts embraced by these experiments. Inasmuch as this work was begun under the impetus given to inquiry and research by the farmers' institute movement and has been carried into effect by selected citizens who have been identified with the farmers' institute work, it may be of service to quote from a recent report of the work of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, made by its secretary:

The number of experimenters engaged in the cooperative work has increased from 12 in 1886 to 3,845 in 1903. In agriculture alone there have been 31,051 distinct tests made throughout the province since the work was started 18 years ago. These tests have required about 148,537 separate plats. The increase in the number of experimenters in agriculture can be seen from the following figures, which show the exact numbers actually engaged in the work in each of the several years: 1886, 12; 1887, 60; 1888, 90; 1891, 203; 1892, 754; 1894, 1,440; 1896, 2,425; 1901, 2,760; 1902, 3,135; and 1903, 3,845. In horticulture the cooperative work was taken up by 15 experimenters in 1888 and by about five hundred experimenters in 1903.

The secretary, in a letter of November 19, 1903, in commenting upon this work, states—

That the cooperative experiment work along the various lines of agriculture which is being conducted by the Agricultural and Experimental Union is exerting an influence which is wholesome in its character, extensive in its operation, and far reaching in its results. It deals with the agriculturists themselves, as well as with the materials which are used in agriculture; with living, thinking, active men, as well as with soils, fertilizers, plants, trees, and animals. Its tendencies are to improve men and to help men improve agriculture. It opens up a channel through which some

of the best material of the experiment station can be brought to the homes of ex-students of the agricultural college and of other farmers; it makes direct application of the information gained at the station by having experiments conducted on hundreds and even thousands of farms, and it systematizes the cooperative work in such a way that the results of those experiments, which have been conducted with care and accuracy, can be summarized and made into valuable reports for the guidance of farmers generally. Perhaps the greatest advantage of the cooperative experiment work is that it helps the best farmers to help themselves and to help others. It combines in an admirable way the training of the hands and the training of the intellect, and is one of the greatest educational features which has been introduced throughout the rural districts in recent years.

The beneficial results that have come from this method of educating the farming people are so conspicuous throughout the locality in which it has been tried as to be remarked by all intelligent travelers who visit that section. That research work is the first duty of the experiment station is unquestionably true. It is also true that the carrying of the results to the people who need the information which has been secured is likewise a duty. Whether this shall be accomplished through the dissemination of literature, the sending out of station officers to publish the information before farmers' institutes, the use of intelligent citizens in cooperative experiment work, or all three of these, is a question to be determined by those to whom has been committed the work of experimentation by their several States, and it is gratifying to know that the colleges and stations recognize their duty and responsibility in this direction, for in 21 States and Territories the farmers' institutes have been committed to the management of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations, and during the past year, as has elsewhere been stated, 196 different members of these institutions have given instruction in agriculture in the farmers' institutes of this country.

### THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE AND THE COMMON SCHOOL.

The institute movement was inaugurated for the improvement of the adult farmer. Its work among adults has been very valuable not only in assisting the farmer in correcting defective methods and in applying newly discovered principles in the prosecution of his art, but also in showing him how much there is of information respecting agriculture that could be imparted to the youngest child if the opportunity were given and competent teachers employed.

The adults whom the institutes have been instructing are the controlling forces in the several localities in which they live, and have power to change the methods now in use in the conduct of their public schools. The campaign of the education of these men has brought many to see the value of the scientific truths in agriculture that have been presented, and they are gradually coming to insist that this same kind of instruction shall be given to their children in the rural schools.



The enactment of laws in some of the States providing for the consolidation of schools in the rural districts is a step in this direction, and is a result due in great part to the agitation of the subject of agriculture in the public schools by the farmers' institute lecturers. State after State has come to regard with growing solicitude the situation of the youth in the country homes, and is earnestly striving to supply equal educational advantages to the rural districts that the towns and cities now enjoy. The one plan agreed upon as promising most in this direction is that of the consolidation or concentration of the ungraded crossroads schools into a well-organized, equipped, officered and central-graded school, to which scholars living beyond easy walking distance are conveyed in vans.

It is now clear that the work of instruction in agriculture, if it is to ultimately revolutionize the art, can not be confined to teaching grown-up scholars, but must be begun between the ages of 6 and 18 years, and one of our great agricultural States has come to an appreciation of this fact. In that State the superintendent of public instruction has made it obligatory upon the part of teachers in the public schools to be prepared to pass an examination upon natural science subjects which relate to agriculture, and in that same State professorships of agriculture have been introduced into the normal schools.

The future lines of development of the institute must also unquestionably be in the direction of reaching the young people who are starting out in life, and immediate steps should be taken to adapt the institute for the efficient performance of this new work. Reference has already been made in this report to one possible method that could be used by the institutes in interesting and instructing country children.

### THE INSTITUTE FIELD.

The field covered by the institutes is wide and the movement is yet in its infancy. Much better methods, more comprehensive as well as more efficient, will have to be employed before the work can be perfected. The problems that are involved in meeting the requirements of agriculture in an educational sense are such as will tax the resources and thought of the best-educated leaders of our time. It is not too early for this Department to begin to plan for shaping and assisting the great work that has been developing so rapidly in recent years. This obligation has been recognized in part in providing a special officer to gather information and render assistance to the several States.

An outline of the work that can be undertaken by the Department with the means now at its command was presented by the institute specialist before the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers, at its recent meeting in Toronto, in answer to the question

“How the National Department of Agriculture may, through its institute officer, assist the State institute meetings.” That portion of the paper which gives specific answers to the question just stated is incorporated in this report, and is as follows:

There are three distinct classes of people upon whom the life and progress of the farmers' institute depends:

- (1) The State director of institutes or person in general control;
- (2) The local manager of institutes comprising the local board;
- (3) The lecturers or teachers who undertake to instruct the people in the art and science of agriculture.

The Department can assist the State director or other officers in charge of the farmers' institutes in a State—

- (1) By furnishing him with data respecting the methods of conducting the institute work in other States;
- (2) By keeping him informed in advance as to the places selected for institutes, the dates upon which they are to be held, and the speakers who are to be present in all of the States;
- (3) By placing him in communication with the institute lecturers of the country;
- (4) By aiding in securing the interest and cooperation of agricultural college and experiment station experts in his work;
- (5) By sending experts either from the Department of Agriculture at Washington or from such of the corps of agricultural college and experiment station men as may be available, to assist him in his institutes;
- (6) By suggesting methods for local organization;
- (7) By educating lecturers for institute work by means of correspondence through the Office of Experiment Stations and by bringing them into communication with experts to give them instruction in the latest and most reliable discoveries of science along the line of their specialties;
- (8) By publishing an annual report giving a synopsis of the institute work, its character and progress in all of the States.

The Department can be of assistance to the local managers, through the agency of the State directors—

- (1) By sending them institute literature;
- (2) By suggesting effective methods for advertising institute meetings;
- (3) By furnishing model forms of programmes;
- (4) By suggesting topics for discussion;
- (5) By suggesting methods for creating and increasing interest in farmers' institutes;
- (6) By furnishing question-box material;
- (7) By calling attention to subjects that should be excluded from their institutes.

The Department can assist the institute lecturer—

- (1) By placing him in communication with the director of institutes in other States;
- (2) By bringing him into correspondence with scientific experts in the line of his specialty;
- (3) By opening a correspondence school in the Office of Experiment Stations for institute lecturers;
- (4) By using its influence in securing and providing at least some help for a course of instruction for the institute lecturer by the agricultural college of the State;
- (5) By using its influence with station officers to provide for an annual visit to the State experiment station on the part of the lecturer for the study of methods of experimentation and for familiarizing him with the work of his station;
- (6) By arranging for an annual meeting of lecturers at the Office of Experiment Stations in Washington for conference and for the study of the work of the Depart-



ment of Agriculture. The Department, moreover, will welcome individual lecturers at any time and for any period who come to Washington either as casual visitors or for purposes of study;

- (7) By sending him the publications of the Department of Agriculture;
- (8) By sending him lists of the experiment station bulletins of the several States;
- (9) By sending him lists of the reports of the State departments of agriculture;
- (10) By supplying him with charts relating to soils, cattle feeds, fertilizers, the composition of crops, etc., so far as the Department is able to furnish them;
- (11) By sending him lists of books which relate to his specialty;
- (12) By interesting him in and securing his attendance at the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers.

These are some of the more obvious and direct ways by which the Department may assist the State institutes.

There are others not so direct but equally effective, such as, for instance, by endeavoring to influence the normal schools to introduce the study of agricultural science into their curricula, and the State and county teachers' institutes to devote some time to nature-study topics instead of confining their schedules, as is too often the case at present, to the presentation of worn-out and soporific discussions on abstract questions of psychology; by urging State boards of education to exert their influence in behalf of better rural schools; by urging State and county agricultural societies to make their exhibits educational and helpful instead of commonplace or a mere miniature copy of their weekly local markets; by inducing granges, alliances, and farm clubs to send representatives to the institute to take notes of the discussions and report to their societies, or better, to secure the attendance of these organizations en masse.

### CONDITION OF THE INSTITUTE WORK.

In order that the condition of the institute work throughout the country might be ascertained, the following blank form, accompanied by a letter addressed to the officers having general charge of the institutes in the States and Territories, was sent out requesting them to fill in the blanks with appropriate replies to the questions asked and to return them promptly to the Office of Experiment Stations. The time covered by the report corresponds with the fiscal year of the Department, which ended June 30, 1903.

#### FORM OF REPORT.

*Report of the director of farmers' institutes for the State of ——— for the year ended June 30, 1903.*

1. Total number of institutes held during the year ending June 30, 1903, —.
2. Number of one-day institutes, —; two-day, —; three or more days, —.
3. Total number of sessions, —.
4. Total attendance, computed by taking the largest attendance at any one session, for each institute, —.
5. When did your institute season begin?
6. When did it end?
7. On what basis are the institutes apportioned to the several districts in your State?
8. On what basis are your funds distributed in aid of institutes?
9. What proportion of the local expenses do you, as director, pay?
10. If these expenses are provided for locally, what is the system?
11. Does the State make appropriation for institutes?

12. If so, what was the appropriation last year? —. What amount is appropriated for the coming year?
13. To whom is the appropriation made payable?
14. Have you any other funds for institute purposes outside of the State appropriation?
15. If so, give the sources and the amount? —.
16. What was the total cost of your institutes for the last institute season?
17. What was the cost per session?
18. By whom is the State director appointed?
19. For what period is he appointed?
20. What other duties does he have in addition to his work as director?
21. What office assistance does he have as director?
22. What salary does the director receive?
23. From what fund is the salary paid?
24. From what fund are the office expenses paid?
25. What provision is made for meeting the cost of postage, printing, and advertising?
26. To what extent do you, as director, attend your institutes?
27. Do you take a place regularly on the programme as a lecturer?
28. To what extent do you arrange the dates, places, and programmes for your institutes?
29. Do you publish an announcement of the dates, places, and speakers before your institute season begins? —. If so, how long in advance?
30. Do you have any special or leading topic prescribed for discussion in every institute held in your State? —. If so, what was the topic last season, and what do you propose for the coming season?
31. Do you have any definite plan for conducting the question box? —. If so, what is the plan and how do you secure its observance by the local managers?
32. Are any institutes held by localities or organizations independent of your control? —. If so, how many?
33. Under whose auspices are these independent institutes held?
34. Give an estimate of the attendance the past year at the independent institutes?
35. Do you encourage their continuance? —. If so, in what manner do you exhibit your interest?
36. Do you publish a report of the proceedings of your institutes?
37. If so, give your method for securing the reports of the proceedings, the number you publish, and the method of their distribution —.
38. Who appoints your State lecturers?
39. What compensation do they receive?
40. On what basis is the compensation rated?
41. What proportion of the time of the institute is given to the State lecturers?
42. How many state lecturers do you supply to any one institute?
43. Is the State lecture force present at your institutes selected according to any definite plan? —. If so, what is the plan?
44. Do you have rest or vacation periods for your lecturers during the institute season? —. If so, how often do they occur and for what length of time?
45. What is the method of selecting the presiding officer of the institute?
46. What is your method of advertising the institute?
47. Where are your most successful institutes held, in the town or country?
48. Do you hold sessions specially for women?
49. If so, what is your method and degree of success?
50. Do you have exhibits of agricultural implements or products at your institutes?
51. Do you have more than one set of institutes in operation at the same time?
52. If so, how many, and what plan have you adopted?

53. Do the transportation companies grant you any concessions? —. If so, to what extent?
54. What assistance does your State agricultural college furnish in institute work?
55. What assistance do you receive from the State agricultural experiment station?
56. What is your form of local organization for institutes?
57. Do you find it to be satisfactory?
58. Do your county fair and agricultural societies take any part in your institutes? —. If so, to what extent?
59. Do the county superintendents of schools, school directors, or teachers assist you in your institute work? —. If so, to what extent?
60. What are your institutes doing to improve the condition of your rural schools?
61. What are your institutes doing to improve the condition of your country roads?
62. Do you ever visit institutes in neighboring States?
63. Have you visited the homes of your lecturers to see the condition of their surroundings?
64. Do you require that your lecturers submit their addresses for criticism to make sure that they are scientifically correct?
65. Are you a member of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers?
66. What special new features have you introduced into your institute work during the past season, and with what results?
67. Do you hold an annual round-up institute? —. If so, do you limit the programme strictly to the discussion of institute methods, or is it general?
68. What can the Office of Experiment Stations do to assist you in making your work more effective?

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_,

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_.

Replies have been received from almost all of the directors—some quite complete, others but partial, and one failed to respond.

The statistical data herewith presented have been secured from the State directors of institutes, the reports of the presidents of the agricultural and mechanical colleges to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Secretary of Agriculture, from bulletins and programmes issued by the State institute directors, and from information secured by personal visits by the institute specialist.

The purpose has been to present as complete statistics as possible in order that those who are interested may have information that is full and reliable, and also that they may be informed as to the precise character and extent of the work and the methods pursued by the several States in conducting it.

Out of 44 States reporting the source of income for institute purposes, the institutes in 33 of them are supported by appropriations by the States, 10 are sustained by local subscriptions or by agricultural college or experiment station assistance, and 1 receives appropriations both from the State and the agricultural college. This shows that there is in almost all of the States a feeling of responsibility on the part of their legislatures for the support of the farmers' institute movement. The few States in which no State aid is now given will no doubt in the near future be brought to contribute from State funds.



In reply to the question as "to what extent the State director attends his institutes," 24 reply that they have attended all or nearly all, 4 do not attend, and 12 attend part of the time.

To the query as to "whether the State director takes a place upon the regular programme," 21 replied affirmatively, 13 that they do not, and 4 that they permit their names to be placed on the programmes occasionally.

Out of 39 replies to the question as to "whether the State director arranges the dates, places, and programmes for institutes," 27 state that they complete all arrangements, 5 that this work is done by local committees, and 7 that it is effected by cooperation with the county authorities.

To the question "Do you publish an announcement of the dates, places, and speakers before your institute season begins," 29 replied that they publish these facts, and 10 that they do not.

Out of 39 who responded to the inquiry as to "whether they prescribe special or leading topics for discussion in the institutes," 13 replied that they do, 25 that they do not, and 1 that he does so occasionally.

To the question "Do you have any definite plan for conducting the question box," 9 replied that they had, and 31 that they had not.

Out of 40 States, 21 publish the proceedings of their institutes either in whole or in part, and 19 make no provision for publication.

Thirty-one reports show that in 20 States the lecturers are appointed directly by the superintendents of institutes, and in 11 of the States they are appointed by boards of agriculture, regents of the university, or by institute committees.

The compensation allowed to institute lecturers is reported by 32 directors. In 10 of the States their expenses only are paid. In 7 they receive from \$15 to \$50 per week and expenses. In 15 they receive from \$2 to \$10 per day and expenses.

In answer to the question "Where are your most successful institutes held, in the town or country," 24 reported in the "small towns," and 15 stated "in the country."

Institutes "specially for women" are held in 15 of the States reporting, none being held in the other 25.

In all of the States reporting, 43 in number, the agricultural colleges furnish lecturers for the institute work, and out of 44 States reporting, 43 experiment stations participate in lecturing before farmers' institutes.

Thirty-eight replies were received to the question, "Do your county fair associations and agricultural societies take part in your institutes." Twelve reported that their agricultural societies assist them, and 26 that they do not. Fourteen out of 39 report that they hold annual round-up institutes; the other 25 do not.

Various replies were received to the inquiry as to what the Office of Experiment Stations can do to assist in making the State institute work more effective. Twenty-three directors made definite requests. Sixteen of them asked for competent speakers, and 7 for suitable literature. Two asked for assistance in securing State organization. Two requested aid in educating their lecturers through the establishment of State normal schools, to be in session for two or three weeks each year. One asked for financial assistance, and 1 requested some suggestion as to how attendance upon their institutes can be increased.

An examination of the reports from all of the States and Territories shows that 3,106 institutes cost \$60.22 per institute; that 9,426 sessions cost an average of \$16.85 per session. There were 4,864 days of institutes in all. A summary of the reports which are comparable shows that 4,792 days of institutes cost at the rate of \$39 per day, and that the average cost for institutes to 886,654 persons was 0.022 cent per person for the year.

Twenty States reported copies of their proceedings published and issued amounting to 253,700.

Statistics giving the details of the work in each State are appended in the tabulated statement accompanying this report.

The replies received indicate what is being done in the institute work throughout the country, and show to some extent the interest that this work has excited both upon the part of the farming people who are directly benefited and also of those who have in charge the general system of public education. The colleges and stations have with one exception been active in their support of this movement. There has been lack of organized cooperation on the part of the local agricultural societies in many of the States. This is a source of influence that ought to be enlisted in support of the institute movement.

It is unfortunate that full statistics could not be secured from all of the States so as to be able to show the condition of the work in all of the respects indicated in the blank form submitted. It is hoped that the directors will arrange to secure data so that it will be possible to present a complete report next year.

Some statistics taken from the Census Report for the year 1900 are also given, showing the population of the several States, the number of homes in each State, and the percentage of the whole number of homes that are distinctly farm homes. From these data an approximation of the number of people who live in farm homes is given.

This approximation is arrived at by estimating that the number of persons in a farm home is equal to that in other homes, and that the per cent of farm homes is, therefore, also the per cent of rural population.

This estimate is not strictly accurate, for the Census enumerators in

taking account of farm homes did not include a home, although situated in the country, which "consists of only a dwelling and ground upon which it stands, with appurtenances thereto, but is not occupied by what may be termed a farm family." (Census Report of 1900, pt. 2, Population, p. CLXXXVII.) Neither are there included farm laborers who reside in towns and cities, but who work out on farms. The figures, therefore, given for farm population are below rather than above the actual number engaged in agriculture.

## FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE SEVERAL STATES AND TERRITORIES.

### ALABAMA.

Population 1,828,697. Total number of homes 374,765. Number of farm homes 217,461. Per cent of farm homes 58. Approximate population in farm homes 1,060,644.

Director of institutes.—C. A. Cary, Veterinarian, Alabama Polytechnic Institute and Agricultural Experiment Station, Auburn.

The farmers' institute work in Alabama is under the direction of the board of trustees of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute and of the agricultural experiment station. There is no State law regulating or directing the work. Last year there was appropriated by the college \$600 for institute expenses, and eleven lecturers were employed for institute services. Twenty-two institutes were held, consisting of 50 sessions, with a total attendance of 2,618.

No report of institute proceedings is printed. The director is appointed for the period of one year by the board of trustees of the college and station. Eight members of the college and station staffs participated in the institute work, aggregating 52 days of service. There are no permanent local institute organizations, the director arranging for the dates, places, and programmes, as well as advertising the institutes. A ten-day round-up institute, or convention of institute workers, was held last year at the college. The sum of \$800 has been appropriated for the institute season ending June 30, 1904.

### ALABAMA INSTITUTES FOR COLORED PEOPLE.

G. W. Carver, Director, Department of Agriculture and Experiment Station, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee.

Farmers' institutes for colored people have been organized under the direction of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. About 10,000 colored people are reported to have been in attendance during the past year at the institute meetings. The expenses of the institutes are met by the localities in which they are held. The meetings are advertised by circulars, personal letters, and through the various pulpits of the surrounding country. The formation of local organiza-



tions to meet once each month is encouraged. A general conference, known as the Tuskegee Normal Conference, took place at the industrial institute last February, largely attended by farmers from all over the State. The lecture service is performed chiefly by the members of the Tuskegee Institute.

#### ALASKA.

Population 63,592. Total number of homes 13,459. Number of farm homes 27. Per cent of farm homes 0.2. Approximate population in farm homes 127.

Director of institutes.—C. C. Georgeson, Special Agent in Charge of Experiment Station, Sitka.

Farmers' institutes have not yet been organized in Alaska, but the special agent in charge of the experiment station, as he visits the various districts, takes advantage of the opportunity to give advice as to the methods that might be used in improving the agriculture of the several localities.

#### ARIZONA.

Population 122,931. Total number of homes 29,875. Number of farm homes 7,391. Per cent of farm homes 24.7. Approximate population in farm homes 30,362.

Director of institutes.—R. H. Forbes, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Tucson.

Farmers' institutes in Arizona have been held under the direction of the State University, and until this year no specific appropriation had been made by the legislature for meeting the expenses of institute work. Two institutes consisting of 20 sessions were held by four members of the college and experiment station staffs. The director reports an attendance of 1,000.

The legislative assembly this year passed an act providing for the establishment of farmers' institutes throughout the Territory, and appropriated \$2,700 for the purpose of meeting the expenses. This sum is to be available for the season of 1903-4. The new law places the control of the institutes in the hands of the board of regents of the university.

#### CALIFORNIA.

Population 1,485,053. Total number of homes 341,781. Number of farm homes 71,119. Per cent of farm homes 20.8. Approximate population in farm homes 308,891.

Superintendent of institutes.—E. J. Wickson, University of California, Berkeley.

The institute work in California is under the general direction of the superintendent of farmers' institutes, assisted by two conductors, one having the central and northern portions of the State, and the other having charge of the institute work in the southern section.

The last legislature by act approved March 18, 1903, authorized the board of regents of the University of California to hold farmers' insti-

tutes under such rules and regulations as they may deem proper and at such times and places as they may direct. The sum of \$12,000 was appropriated for institute work for the next two fiscal years. During the past year \$4,000 was spent by the university in paying the salaries of the conductors of institutes, the expenses of lecturers, hall rent, advertising, etc.

Sixty institutes were held during the year made up of 254 sessions. The total attendance is given at 20,000. Ten thousand copies of the proceedings are prepared and printed in the agricultural report, and abstracts published by the agricultural journals. Thirteen members of the college and station staffs participated in the work, attending all of the institutes and aggregating 131 days of service. The arranging of dates, places, and programmes for institutes is in the hands of the superintendent. A number of independent agricultural institutes were held at which the estimated attendance was about 5,000. The superintendent reports that the most successful meetings are held in country districts. No general round-up institute was held for the State, but a very successful meeting of farmers' clubs was held in southern California made up of delegates from 35 societies, and continuing for four days. Another six-day meeting was held at a sea-side camping place in southern California with good results.

The superintendent provides two lecturers for each one-day institute, and three lecturers for each institute continuing two days or more. There are no special or permanent local organizations in the several counties, but a local committee appointed by the last institute takes charge, under the general direction of the State superintendent, of the work of preparation for future meetings.

### COLORADO.

Population 539,700. Total number of homes 127,459. Number of farm homes 24,745. Per cent of farm homes 19.4. Approximate population in farm homes 104,701.

Director of institutes.—B. O. Aylesworth, President State Agricultural College, Fort Collins.

There are no specific laws in this State in regard to farmers' institutes. The work has been conducted by the State Agricultural College and the funds with which to carry it on have been contributed by this institution. Ten institutes were held last year, made up of 20 sessions, and an attendance of about 1,300 persons. The total expense was \$385. The lecture force was provided from the staffs of the agricultural college and experiment station. Nine persons were sent out on this service, contributing in the aggregate sixty-five days of time. There has been no arrangement made for the publication of the proceedings.



**CONNECTICUT.**

Population 908,420. Total number of homes 203,424. Number of farm homes 26,609. Per cent of farm homes 13.1. Approximate population in farm homes 119,003.

Superintendents of institutes.—James F. Brown, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, North Stonington; J. B. Noble, Secretary Connecticut Dairy-men's Association, Hartford; H. C. C. Miles, secretary Connecticut Pomological Society, Milford.

Connecticut has no special law regulating the holding of farmers' institutes. The State board of agriculture, the Connecticut Dairy-men's Association, and the Pomological Society are each carrying on institute work in the State. The methods used by these different organizations in carrying out their work and disseminating information are entirely in their own discretion. Each, however, has a committee appointed to have charge of the institute work. The board of agriculture requires that localities applying for institutes shall "furnish a suitable hall, provide local transportation for speakers and visitors, music, if desired, and entertain by collation, or otherwise, unless there are convenient hotel accommodations." The board pays for printing, traveling expenses, and services of speakers.

Nine institutes were held during the past year, made up of 25 sessions and attended by 4,000 persons. Twenty-one different speakers were on the institute force of the State. The total expense amounted to \$700. Five thousand copies of reports of the proceedings were printed and distributed. The appropriation for institutes is by the board of agriculture which receives \$3,500 annually for all purposes. Six other institutes were held by the State Pomological Society, the State Dairy-men's Association, and the Tobacco Growers' Association. There are no specific local organizations for conducting institutes, but the superintendents depend upon the local granges and farm clubs for cooperation.

**DELAWARE.**

Population 184,735. Total number of homes 39,446. Number of farm homes 9,677. Per cent of farm homes 24.5. Approximate population in farm homes 45,260.

Director of institutes.—Wesley Webb, Dover.

Until this year the farmers' institute work in Delaware was organized by counties, each of the three counties having a separate institute director. The legislature of 1903 amended the law by providing "that the State board of agriculture may appoint a director of farmers' institutes for the State to cooperate with the farmers' institutes of the several counties." The sum of \$600 annually is appropriated, being \$200 to the institutes in each county. The salary of the superintendent is provided for outside of this amount. The law provides that the failure of any county to hold an institute in any year shall forfeit its appropriation for that year.

Twenty-eight institutes were held during the past season made up of 67 sessions, and attended by 4,800 persons. Nineteen lecturers were on the State force. The total expense amounted to \$800. Four members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs were in attendance as lecturers and contributed fifteen days of time. The director of institutes is also secretary of the State board of agriculture. The local organizations are provided for under an act of the legislature of May, 1889, which requires that there shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee for each county organization, and that these officers shall receive no compensation and are to hold their office for one year. No report of the proceedings has heretofore been published, but the superintendent states that they expect to issue a report in the future.

### FLORIDA.

Population 528,542. Total number of homes 117,001. Number of farm homes 40,965. Per cent of farm homes 35. Approximate population in farm homes 184,989.

Director of institutes.—C. M. Conner, Florida Agricultural College, Lake City.

Authority to hold farmers' institutes is committed by the State to the board of trustees of the Florida Agricultural College and the Experiment Station. The appropriation to these institutions contains the following clause: "For holding farmers' institutes, \$2,500." The superintendent is appointed by the board of trustees, and last year under his direction 21 institutes were held, consisting of 42 sessions. Two thousand nine hundred persons were in attendance, and 22 State speakers gave instruction. The total cost of the institutes was \$2,500. The agricultural college and experiment station staffs were represented by 2 lecturers from their force, who contributed 30 days of time. The local organization consists of a chairman in each county appointed by the superintendent of institutes, with authority to make all necessary local arrangements for institute meetings. Five thousand copies of reports of the proceedings were distributed last year. The superintendent, in addition to his duties as director of farmers' institutes, is also professor of agriculture in the agricultural college of Florida. The dates and places for all institutes are arranged by the superintendent, and notices of meetings are published from 3 to 4 weeks in advance.

### GEORGIA.

Population 2,216,331. Total number of homes 455,557. Number of farm homes 221,395. Per cent of farm homes 48.6. Approximate population in farm homes 1,077,136.

Director of institutes.—H. C. White, President of the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Athens; Harvie Jordan, Assistant Director of Institutes, Monticello.

There is no law in this State providing for the holding of farmers' institutes. The work has been conducted by the college of agriculture of the State University, and the money needed for carrying on the work has been appropriated by the trustees of that university. The general direction of the work is in the hands of the president of the agricultural college, aided by a field assistant, Mr. Harvie Jordan, of Monticello. One thousand dollars was set aside by the trustees of the university for bearing the expenses of institutes for the past year. Fifteen institutes were held, consisting of 32 sessions, attended by about 3,500 persons. Eight lecturers were upon the State force, 6 of whom were representatives of the faculty of the college or the station staff, who contributed 13 days of their time to institute lecture service.

No institutes had been held in Georgia for several years until the past season. The purpose of the director is to organize a farmers' institute in every senatorial district in the State. Each locality is expected to secure a suitable hall for meeting, without charge to the State superintendent, and to provide all of the local accommodations needed for successfully conducting the meeting. The State supplies 2 lecturers to each institute, whose expenses are paid out of the agricultural college funds. The dates, places, and programmes for the institutes have thus far been arranged by the director, and the meetings are advertised at least 2 weeks in advance by means of the county press. No report of the proceedings is published. In addition to the institutes held by the college of agriculture of the State University, one meeting was held by the Georgia State Industrial College, at which there were present about 1,000 farmers. The meeting was conducted by 3 members of the college staff.

## HAWAII.

Population 154,001. Total number of homes 36,922. Number of farm homes 1,409. Per cent of farm homes 3.8. Approximate population in farm homes 5,852.

President of institutes.—Jared G. Smith, Special Agent in Charge of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Honolulu.

There are no laws in force in this Territory relating to farmers' institutes. A farmers' institute society was organized January 25, 1902, and quarterly meetings have been held regularly since. Seventy-five persons have enrolled themselves as active members. No funds have as yet been appropriated by the local legislature for assisting in the institute work. Four institutes were held during the past season, consisting of four sessions, with an attendance of 160. The cost of these meetings was \$35. All of these meetings were conducted by the experiment station staff. A report of the proceedings has been made, but owing to lack of funds has not been printed. One hundred and fifty dollars has been appropriated for institutes for the coming year.



The arranging of dates, places, and programmes is left entirely to the president of the institute society. Two independent institutes were held during the year, with an estimated attendance of about 100.

#### IDAHO.

Population 161,772. Total number of homes 37,491. Number of farm homes 17,153. Per cent of farm homes 45.8. Approximate population in farm homes 74,091.

Superintendent of institutes.—H. T. French, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Moscow.

The last legislature appropriated \$2,000 for institute work for two years. The control of the institutes and the expenditure of the money are intrusted to the board of regents of the college of agriculture of the University of Idaho. Seventeen institutes were held during the year, made up of 75 sessions. Two thousand five hundred and fifty persons were in attendance. There were 9 lecturers on the State force, of whom 6 were furnished from the agricultural college and station staffs, who attended all of the institutes, contributing 60 days of their time. The dates, places, and programmes are all arranged by the superintendent of institutes. The principal topics discussed last year were sugar-beet culture, dairying, horticulture, stock breeding, and feeding. Announcements of the dates, places, and speakers are made from four to eight weeks in advance of the meetings. Brief reports of the discussions are prepared by the secretary and published and distributed. The form of local organization consists of a chairman elected at the institute meeting and a secretary appointed, together with such special committees as are needed.

#### ILLINOIS.

Population 4,821,550. Total number of homes 1,036,158. Number of farm homes 262,388. Per cent of farm homes 25.3. Approximate population in farm homes 1,219,852.

Superintendent of institutes.—A. B. Hostetter, Secretary Illinois Farmers' Institutes, Springfield.

The Illinois Farmers' Institute is organized under special act of the legislature and is a public corporation of the State. "It consists of three delegates from each county of the State, elected annually at the farmers' institutes of the county," and is managed by a board of trustees "consisting of the State superintendent of public instruction, the professor of agriculture of the University of Illinois, the president of the State board of agriculture, the president of the State Horticultural Society, the president of the State Dairymen's Association, and one member from each Congressional district of the State, to be selected by the delegates from the district present at the annual meeting." The officers of this board of directors are a "president,

vice-president, secretary, treasurer, a State superintendent of farmers' institutes, and such other officers or agents as may be deemed proper for organizing and conducting the work of the organization, all of whom shall hold their office for one year, unless removed sooner by the board, and shall perform such duties as may be required of them by the rules of the board."

Article 5 of the act prescribes the duties of the State superintendent of institutes:

SECTION 1. The State superintendent of institutes shall have general supervision of institute work in the State under the direction of the board of directors and of the executive committee.

SEC. 2. He shall make recommendations as to lines of work which he believes will prove profitable for the ensuing year, together with general plans for their execution and estimates of expenses. He shall make such other recommendations to the board of directors as he may deem for the best interest of the institute work.

SEC. 3. He shall visit the county institute and district conferences when invited to do so by the county institute officers or directors, or when in his judgment the institute work demands such visit.

SEC. 4. He shall have charge of the publication of the annual report, and shall insert therein such matters as will advance the agricultural interests of the State, under the direction of the executive committee.

SEC. 5. He shall be librarian of the farmers' institute free libraries, and shall submit to the board of directors or to the executive committee, for approval, lists of books which he deems ought to be purchased for the use of the libraries when such are needed.

SEC. 6. He shall make a detailed annual report in writing to the board of directors at the last meeting of the old board, of his acts and doings during the year, together with a general summary of the institute work of the State for the year; he shall also make such other reports during the year as the board of directors or executive committee may require.

One hundred and eight institute meetings were held last year, 68 being two days and 40 being three or more days. Eighty-four speakers are on the lecture force and 42,876 persons were in attendance. The appropriation amounted to \$18,150. An annual report is made and distributed. Seven members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs were reported on the institute lecture corps, who devoted 23 days to this service. The local organizations in the several counties elect their own officers and formulate their own rules. They are permitted to select their own speakers and to choose such topics for consideration as they consider will be of interest to their respective localities. Each county farmers' institute is entitled to the sum of \$75 per annum on condition "that such institute shall file with the secretary of the Illinois Farmers' Institute a sworn statement which shall show that said county farmers' institute has held one or more duly advertised public sessions annually, of not less than two days each, at some easily accessible location." This statement shall also

include "an itemized exhibit of the expenses of the meeting with receipted vouchers therefor, a copy of its printed programme and the printed proceedings showing the title and author of the papers read and by whom discussed, place or places of meeting, with average daily attendance, and such other information as may be called for by the Illinois Farmers' Institute and necessary to successfully assist this work." The Illinois Farmers' Institute is authorized to award one free scholarship in the college of agriculture, good for two years, for each county in the State, and one for each Congressional district of Chicago. The awards are made on the recommendation of the farmers' institute director for each Congressional district. Free circulating libraries are distributed among the several county institutes. Fifty-one of these libraries have been equipped and sent out, containing about 50 volumes.

The Illinois Farmers' Institute is required to make an annual report to the governor of its transactions, which report shall include papers pertaining to its work and addresses made at the annual meeting of the organization. Twenty thousand copies of this report are required to be printed each year, one-half for the use of the Illinois Farmers' Institute and the remainder to the secretary of the State for distribution.

#### INDIANA.

Population 2,516,462. Total number of homes 571,513. Number of farm homes 221,451. Per cent of farm homes 38.7. Approximate population in farm homes 973,870.

Superintendent of institutes.—W. C. Latta, Professor of Agriculture in the School of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Veterinary Science of Purdue University, Lafayette.

The laws of the State of Indiana require the committee of experimental agriculture and horticulture of the board of trustees, together with the faculty of the school of agriculture of Purdue University, to appoint persons to hold county institutes in the several counties of the State. Ten thousand dollars per annum has been appropriated for bearing the expenses of the lecturers and such other items as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the work. The director of institutes is appointed by the trustees of Purdue University, the present officer being the professor of agriculture in the university, and advisory agriculturist of the experiment station.

During the year 181 institutes were held, comprising 858 sessions, and attended by 73,653 persons. The number of lecturers upon the State force was 39. The schedule, including dates, places, and programmes, is arranged by the superintendent, and the places are decided by conference with the local officers. The local committees usually arrange the programmes. Two State lecturers are provided for each institute, with an occasional extra speaker to discuss some special topic. Members of the college and station staffs attend institutes without



charge except for their expenses and at times when other duties do not seriously interfere. The local organizations are effected by having a chairman, secretary, and a vice-president for each township, chosen at the county meeting for the ensuing year. The advertising of the institute is left entirely to the local organization, which for this purpose uses postals, postal-card programmes, personal letters, and the local press. Six hundred copies of abstracts of the proceedings are printed and distributed each year. In addition to the number of meetings above given, there were held two district institutes and an annual conference, the purpose of the conference being to prepare local managers and speakers for the coming season's campaign.

### INDIAN TERRITORY.

Population 302,060. Total number of homes 76,701. Number of farm homes 47,594. Per cent of farm homes 62.1. Approximate population in farm homes 187,579.

Farmers' institutes have not been organized in the Territory.

### IOWA.

Population 2,231,853. Total number of homes 480,878. Number of farm homes 223,525. Per cent of farm homes, 46.5. Approximate population in farm homes 1,037, 811.

Director of institutes.—J. C. Simpson, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, Des Moines.

There is no central organization or State superintendent of farmers' institutes in Iowa, but each county is entitled to organize an institute when forty or more farmers meet and elect a president, secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee of not less than three outside of such officers, and hold an institute remaining in session not less than two days in each year. Upon presenting proof to the county auditor of such organization and such institute having been held, and an itemized statement showing the manner in which the money used has been expended, it is the duty of the county auditor to certify the statement to the auditor of the State, who upon receipt of such certification is required to remit to the treasurer of the county his warrant not to exceed \$75 in any one year.

The absence of any State organization, or central office, or board of control has made it difficult to secure data respecting the work. The secretary of the State department of agriculture has made an estimate of the attendance. There are 99 counties in the State, each of which is entitled to \$75 for institute purposes, making the appropriation available \$7,425. Sixty-four counties held institutes this year—50 two days, and 14 three or more days. The total number of sessions was 348. The attendance is given at 17,750. No report is published of the institute proceedings.

**KANSAS.**

Population 1,470,495. Total number of homes 321,947. Number of farm homes 167,006. Per cent of farm homes 51.9. Approximate population in farm homes 763,186.

Director of institutes.—J. T. Willard, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Manhattan.

The legislature of 1903 passed an act providing for the formation of county farmers' institute associations. Such association under this act shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and it must adopt a constitution and by-laws for its government. The county institute association is entitled to the sum of \$50 from the county to defray the legitimate expenses of a two days' institute, and the legislature has provided in addition an appropriation of \$2,000 per year to the State agricultural college, to be used in paying the expenses of the members of the college faculty and experiment station who attend institutes. The duties of State directors are performed by the chairman of a committee appointed by the president of the college on institute work. Ninety-two institutes were held during the year, composed of 204 sessions. Eighty-two of the institutes were one-day and 10 were two-day. The total attendance was 38,085. The number of speakers upon the State corps was 16. The college and station staffs attended 90 institutes, giving 200 days of their time. The chairman of the State institute committee arranges the dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. The said corps of lecturers is composed of members of the college faculty and station force. The proceedings are not published except brief abstracts by the farm papers.

**KENTUCKY.**

Population 2,147,174. Total number of homes 437,054. Number of farm homes 234,821. Per cent of farm homes 53.7. Approximate population in farm homes 1,153,032.

Director of institutes.—I. B. Nall, Commissioner of Agriculture, Frankfort.

Kentucky has no specific farmers' institute law. The work is conducted under authority given in the general law prescribing the duties of the State bureau of agriculture in which the commissioner is directed to "promote and encourage, as far as practicable, societies and other associations in the several counties." Eight institutes were held during the year, attended by 2,000 persons. Eleven lecturers are upon the State institute force. Three of these are from the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who attended five institutes, giving in the aggregate fifteen days of their time to institute work. The sum of \$13,000 is annually appropriated to meet the expenses of the bureau of agriculture. Of this sum \$1,200 was appropriated by the bureau for institute purposes. The proceedings are edited by the State director and printed in supplement form, and circulated by the



leading agricultural papers in the State. The county papers also inclose these supplements, distributing them among their subscribers. About 8,000 copies of the proceedings of each institute were printed and circulated in this manner during the past year.

The work of arranging for institutes in the several counties is in the hands of the superintendent, who cooperates with local farm clubs in arranging the dates, places, and programmes, the State furnishing such additional lecturers as may be necessary. The dates, places, and speakers are announced as soon as the programme has been prepared through the State agricultural papers as well as by means of local publications.

#### LOUISIANA.

Population 1,381,625. Total number of homes 284,875. Number of farm homes 114,214. Per cent 40.1. Approximate population in farm homes 554,031.

Director of institutes.—J. G. Lee, Commissioner of Agriculture, Baton Rouge.

Under the constitution of 1898 the Louisiana State board of agriculture and immigration were given control and direction of all State agricultural organizations and State farmers' institutes. The board organized a farmers' institute committee, composed of the president of the Louisiana State University, the director of the State experiment station, and the commissioner of agriculture and immigration. Two thousand dollars is annually appropriated for institute work. The commissioner of agriculture and immigration is the executive officer of the State committee on farmers' institutes, and has direct control of the work of organizing and conducting institutes in the several districts. The commissioner reports 13 persons on the State institute lecture force. Fifty institutes were held last year. Forty-eight were one-day and two were three-day, aggregating 134 sessions. The total attendance was 13,245. The amount appropriated for institute purposes was \$2,000. Three thousand five hundred copies of reports of institute proceedings were printed and distributed. Permanent institute clubs with a president and secretary, with one vice-president from each ward of the parish, constitute the local organization. The institute director cooperates with the local authorities in arranging dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. The State director of institutes is appointed by the governor for a period of four years, and is also commissioner of agriculture and immigration.

#### MAINE.

Population 694,466. Total number of homes 163,344. Number of farm homes 57,153. Per cent of farm homes 35. Approximate population in farm homes 243,063.

Director of institutes.—A. W. Gilman, Commissioner of Agriculture, Augusta.

In Maine under the act creating the State department of agriculture, and providing for the appointment of a commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner is required to "hold or cause to be held two farm-

ers' institutes in each county annually, and as many more as the appropriation therefor will allow." Three thousand dollars is annually appropriated for the institute work. During the year 40 institutes were held, composed of 83 sessions; 5,846 persons were in attendance. Nine lecturers are upon the State force. Abstracts of the proceedings are prepared by the commissioner and are included in his annual report, of which 6,000 copies are printed. The commissioner is appointed by the legislature and holds office for two years. The location of the county meetings is made by the county agents, and the dates and programmes are planned by the State director of institutes. The agricultural college and experiment station officers participated in the lecture work whenever desired and at times that did not conflict with their other duties.

### MARYLAND.

Population 1,188,044. Total number of homes 242,331. Number of farm homes 47,089. Per cent of farm homes 19.4. Approximate population in farm homes 230,480.

Director of institutes.—W. L. Amoss, College Park.

Under the State law the farmers' institute director of Maryland is appointed by the trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College, and at least "one institute is required to be held in each year in each county of the State, and an additional one in each county if deemed necessary and desirable." The institute under this act was made a department of the Maryland Agricultural College. Forty institutes were held last year, consisting of 116 sessions; 11,222 persons were in attendance. There were 7 lecturers upon the State force. The members of the agricultural college faculty and of the experiment station devoted 56 days of their time to assisting in the institute work. The work in the several counties is conducted by a local committee, or county organization wherever they exist, or through a local correspondent appointed by the director of institutes. Reports of the institutes are furnished to the county papers, and enough of these are secured by the director to supply his mailing list. The advertising of the meetings is effected through the newspapers of the State by sending to each a programme about four weeks before the institute in the county in which the newspaper is published is held. Four thousand dollars was appropriated last year for institute expenses. The director each year plans a visit of representatives of the institutes in the several counties to some place of special interest outside of the State, as a farm, canning factory, city market, or educational institution, each delegate being expected to write a report of what he has observed during his visit, and present this before the next institute meeting. The results from this method of verifying information have been very satisfactory.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**

Population 2,805,346. Total number of homes 613,659. Number of farm homes 36,510. Per cent of farm homes 5.9. Approximate population in farm homes 165,515.

Director of institutes.—J. L. Ellsworth, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Boston.

The farmers' institutes of Massachusetts are held under a general law establishing the board of agriculture, which authorizes it to "disseminate useful information in agriculture by lectures or otherwise." By a rule of the State board the secretary of the board is required to provide lecturers for farmers' institutes so far as the appropriation for the object will allow. The board recommends "that whenever any farmers' organization in the State shall desire to have a course of not more than three lectures on any farm subject they may apply to the secretary of the board of agriculture for a lecturer, and the secretary, if he thinks the subject a proper one, shall furnish a lecturer, providing he can secure a competent person to attend on the dates named, and also providing that he has not already been called on during the year to provide lecturers for more than thirteen courses."

One hundred and twenty institutes, composed of 154 sessions, were held this year. Twelve thousand four hundred and eighty-seven persons were in attendance, and there were 68 lecturers upon the State force engaged in giving instruction at these meetings. Two thousand dollars was appropriated for meeting the necessary expenses of the State lecturers. The local expenses are met by the societies holding the meetings. Eight members of the agricultural college and station force delivered lectures at 14 institutes, contributing in the aggregate 28 days of time. The dates, places, and programmes for the meetings are arranged by the State director in cooperation with the local officials. The agricultural societies represented on the State board of agriculture are the local organizations under whose auspices the institutes are held.

**MICHIGAN.**

Population 2,420,982. Total number of homes 548,094. Number of farm homes 202,457. Per cent of farm homes 36.9. Approximate population in farm homes 893,342.

Superintendent of institutes.—L. R. Taft, Horticulturist of the Experiment Station of the Michigan Agricultural College, Agricultural College.

The State board of agriculture is authorized by act of the legislature of 1901 to "hold institutes and to establish and maintain courses of reading and lectures for instruction in the various branches of agriculture, mechanic arts, domestic economy, and the related sciences." The board is authorized to "formulate such rules and regulations as it shall deem proper to carry on the work contemplated in the act. and



may employ such agent or agents to perform such duties in connection therewith as it shall deem best."

Local county farmers' institute societies are provided for in the act, and such societies are required to hold annually at least one institute of at least two days in length. To organize a local county institute society the rule of the board requires that at least "twenty residents of the county, without regard to sex, but of legal age, shall meet and adopt a brief constitution in harmony with the State law, elect a president and vice-president from each township in the county, and a secretary, who shall also be treasurer. Such society shall furnish to the secretary of the board of agriculture a copy of its constitution and by-laws, and shall transmit with the same a written agreement, signed by the president and secretary of the society, stating that the society will, for purposes of farmers' institutes, conform to the rules of the board of agriculture governing such institute. Within ten days after the close of each institute the secretary shall make a report to the superintendent on blanks to be furnished by the superintendent." The immediate management of the farmers' institutes is placed in charge of a superintendent elected by the board of agriculture. The superintendent arranges for locating and holding institutes, is authorized to approve all institute societies when properly organized, and, after consultation with members of local institute societies, determine the time and place for holding the institutes and the subjects to be discussed. He also designates the persons who are to attend as lecturers, and has authority to reject from the programme local speakers or topics that are objectionable. He has authority to call upon the faculty and instructors of the agricultural college and the members of the experiment station force for such institute work as may be assigned them by the board with the consent of the president.

During the past year 284 institutes were held, consisting of 885 sessions. Two hundred and thirteen of these institutes were one-day, 70 were two-day, and one three-day. The total attendance was 53,037. There were 97 speakers upon the State lecture force. Sixteen members of the college faculty and of the experiment station staff assisted in this work. The appropriation for the expenses of the lecture force was \$7,500. Reports containing statistics of attendance, list of officers, etc., and a report of the annual round-up institute, together with such papers as are of special excellence read at the county institutes, are edited by the State superintendent, and 8,000 copies were published for distribution by the institute societies. A round-up of institute workers is held each year.

**MINNESOTA.**

Population 1,751,394. Total number of homes 342,658. Number of farm homes 152,393. Per cent of farm homes 44.5. Approximate population in farm homes 779,470.

Superintendent of institutes.—O. C. Gregg, Lynd.

The legislature of Minnesota, by act approved April 14, 1903, repealed all former legislation with regard to farmers' institutes in that State, and provided for their future constitution, government, and support in an entirely new act composed of fifteen sections. A board of administration is created by the act consisting of three members of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota, the president of the State Agricultural Society, the president of the State Dairy Association, and the president of the State Horticultural Society, to have charge of the execution of the act regulating the farmers' institute work throughout the State. This board of administration is authorized to appoint a State superintendent of farmers' institutes whose term of office continues for two years. The board of administration, in conjunction with the superintendent, arranges the institute circuits and determines the times and places where institutes are to be held. The duties of the superintendent are defined as follows: "To superintend the several institutes when located as herein provided; to engage competent instructors therefor; to receive, examine, and report upon all bills for expenses and services payable from established appropriation; and at the end of each fiscal year to make a detailed report of all farmers' institutes held under his direction, with an itemized account of all expenditures under this act during the year last past, to said board of administration." The board of administration is directed to prepare and publish each year a Farmers' Institute Annual. Thirty thousand copies of this publication were sent out last year. One hundred institutes were held during the season, consisting of 238 sessions. Eighty-five institutes were one-day and 15 were two-day. The total attendance was 35,171. Thirteen lecturers were upon the State institute corps. The appropriation for institute expenses was \$16,500. The college and experiment station were represented by one member, who attended nineteen meetings, amounting to nineteen days of service. There are no local county organizations of institutes in the State, the superintendent selecting persons in each locality from year to year to assist him in organizing and conducting the local work.

**MISSISSIPPI.**

Population 1,551,270. Total number of homes 318,948. Number of farm homes 221,110. Per cent of farm homes 69.3. Approximate population in farm homes 1,075,030.

Director of institutes.—J. C. Hardy, President Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, Agricultural College.

Farmers' institute work in Mississippi is under the direction of the president of the agricultural and mechanical college. There are no laws organizing institutes in the State excepting that which makes an appropriation to the agricultural and mechanical college for institute work. Last year 58 institutes were held, composed of 122 sessions. Fifty-six were one-day meetings and two were two-day meetings. The total attendance was 10,000. There were 15 lecturers upon the State lecture corps, 9 of whom were members of the college and experiment station staffs. The college and experiment station lecturers participated in all the meetings that were held. One thousand five hundred dollars was appropriated for institute work, and 18,000 copies of institute reports were published and distributed among the farmers of the State.

The State director organizes the farmers in the several localities into clubs, and the clubs of each county into a single county club, the county club having charge of the local institute work. He also fixes the dates and places for institutes, committing the preparation of the programmes and the arrangement of speakers to the county institute club. Announcement of dates, places, and speakers is made about one month before an institute meeting is held, by publishing the programme in the county papers. The State director is appointed by the board of trustees of the agricultural and mechanical college, and the appropriation made by the State is payable to this board of trustees.

A round-up meeting of institute workers was held this year at which about 400 farmers from the various districts of the State were present. An effort is to be made the coming year to organize a permanent farmers' club in each county, to have charge of the local work connected with the farmers' institute meetings.

### MISSOURI.

Population 3,106,665. Total number of homes 654,333. Number of farm homes 282,840. Per cent of farm homes 43.2. Approximate population in farm homes 1,340,079.

Director of institutes.—George B. Ellis, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Columbia.

The control of farmers' institutes in Missouri is by law placed in the hands of the State board of agriculture, which is required to "hold farmers' institutes in different parts of the State for the purpose of giving instruction in agriculture." The execution of this work is placed in the hands of the secretary of the board. One hundred and twenty-seven institutes were held during the year, attended by 25,400 persons. Thirty-one lecturers were upon the State institute staff, ten of whom were members of the agricultural college faculty



and experiment station force. These college and station men gave 120 days of time, and were present at all of the institutes that were held. Four thousand dollars was appropriated by the State for institute work, made payable to the board of agriculture. There are no permanent local organizations for institute purposes in the several counties, the director arranging each year for the institutes by correspondence from the office with a local committee, which he appoints. The director fixes the dates and places and consults with the local committee respecting the programmes. Meetings are advertised by publishing from two to four weeks in advance the dates, places, and names of the speakers in the local press. A traveling institute was organized two years ago and was in successful operation during the past season. A railway car is fitted up with illustrative material and equipped with a lecture force furnished by the college of agriculture and mechanic arts of the university and by the experiment station. Numerous districts were visited in this manner and very satisfactory institutes were held, the lecturers having the advantage of the material with which the car was supplied for use in demonstration. The railroads of the State cordially cooperated in the movement and the meetings were unusually well attended, as appears from a comparison with the attendance of the previous year in which 10,000 persons were reported to have been present at institutes, this year the number was increased to 25,400. No reports of the institutes are published.

#### MONTANA.

Population 243,329. Total number of homes 55,889. Number of farm homes 13,909. Per cent of farm homes 24.9. Approximate population in farm homes 60,588.

Director of institutes.—F. B. Linfield, Acting Secretary of the Board of Farmers' Institutes, Bozeman.

The board of administration of farmers' institutes in Montana is composed of the governor of the State, the director of the Montana Experiment Station, and the presidents of the Montana Registered Cattle Breeders' Association, the Montana Wool Growers' Association, the Montana Live Stock Association, the Montana Horticultural Society, the Montana State Board of Horticulture, the Montana Agricultural Association, and the Montana Dairyman's Association. The officers of the board consist of a president and secretary elected by the board for two years. The members of this board of administration are designated "Directors of Montana farmers' institutes and are authorized to hold institutes for the instruction of the citizens of the State in the various branches of agriculture, and to prescribe such rules and regulations as they may deem best for organizing and conducting the same." At least one institute shall be held in each county each year. The directors are authorized to designate the times

and places. The local county organizations are required to provide suitable halls, and must furnish them with light and heat and bear all necessary advertising expenses. Two thousand dollars was appropriated for the purpose of conducting institutes this year. Under a new law approved March 6, 1903, \$4,000 per annum is appropriated, and each institute held under the authority of the board shall be entitled to a sum not exceeding \$50 from the amount thus appropriated. An institute annual is authorized to be published, the cost not to exceed \$1,500 in any one year. Sixteen institutes were held during the year, consisting of 32 sessions. Six hundred persons were in attendance and 16 lecturers were upon the State force. Four of these lecturers were members of the agricultural college and station staffs and were present at 8 institutes, contributing 32 days of their time.

The rules of the board require that the State shall be divided into districts for institute purposes. The formation of local farmers' institute organizations, or farmers' clubs, in the various counties of the State is recommended. The secretary of the board is, under their rules, the superintendent of farmers' institutes and has immediate charge of all arrangements for the farmers' institute work over the State. He is required to make a report of the work of the year and the meetings held to the board. Five thousand copies of reports of the institutes are published each year and distributed

#### NEBRASKA.

Population 1,066,300. Total number of homes 220,947. Number of farm homes 116,854. Per cent of farm homes 52.9. Approximate population in farm homes 564,072.

Director of institutes.—E. A. Burnett, Director Agricultural Experiment Station of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Farmers' institutes in Nebraska are held under the general direction of the industrial college of the University of Nebraska and the agricultural experiment station. The university employs a superintendent of farmers' institutes, who is director of the experiment station. There is also employed an assistant superintendent who has charge of the field work.

Sixty-five institutes were held last year, consisting of 268 sessions. Twenty-three institutes were one-day, 38 two-day, and 4 three-day. The total attendance was 25,000. Thirty-three lecturers were employed upon the State institute force, and \$4,000 was appropriated for meeting the expenses of the work. The members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs assist whenever their services are required and their duties in connection with their official positions permit. No report of the proceedings is published. The dates, places, and programmes for the institutes are arranged by the State director. The local county organizations consist of a president, secre-



tary, and executive committee, who are intrusted with the duties of securing meeting rooms and providing for the payment of the local expenses of the institute. The State lecturers are appointed by authority of the regents of the university and are assigned to the several localities by the superintendent of institutes. The institutes are advertised through the local papers, by means of posters, and by the distribution of programmes through the mail.

#### NEVADA.

Population 42,325. Total number of homes 11,190. Number of farm homes 2,164. Per cent of farm homes 19.3. Approximate population in farm homes 8,170.

Director of institutes.—N. E. Wilson, Vice-Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Reno.

The work of conducting farmers' institutes in Nevada is in charge of the State agricultural experiment station. There is no law in this State providing for the organization or conducting of institutes. Last year there were held, under the direction of the station staff, three institutes, composed of 18 sessions. Nine hundred and eighty-three persons were in attendance. Five State speakers comprised the lecture corps, all of whom were members of the agricultural experiment station staff. The total expense was \$120. The local organization consists of a local executive committee, with a permanent chairman and secretary.

The arranging of dates, places, and programmes is by the State director, after consultation with members of the local committee. The railroad companies furnish free transportation for all workers within State limits and grant reduced rates to all who attend the institutes. No report of the proceedings is published.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Population 411,588. Total number of homes 97,902. Number of farm homes 28,271. Per cent of farm homes 28.9. Approximate population in farm homes 118,948.

Director of institutes.—N. J. Bachelder, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Concord.

The public statutes of New Hampshire require the secretary of the board of agriculture to "make arrangements for, give public notice of, and if possible personally attend the farmers' meetings authorized by the board." Under this general authority farmers' institutes are organized and conducted. Last season 18 one-day institutes, composed of 36 sessions, were held. Six thousand three hundred people were in attendance and 14 lecturers were upon the State corps. The total expense was \$1,000, which was apportioned from the general fund appropriated to the State board of agriculture. Local arrangements for holding institutes are made by the secretary of the board with

grange organizations, farm clubs, and agricultural and horticultural societies. Two thousand copies of reports of proceedings were published and distributed.

#### NEW JERSEY.

Population 1,883,669. Total number of homes 415,222. Number of farm homes 35,337. Per cent of farm homes 8.5. Approximate population in farm homes 160,111.

Director of institutes.—Franklin Dye, Secretary of State Board of Agriculture, Trenton.

The farmers' institutes in New Jersey are organized and conducted under general authority granted to the State board of agriculture by the legislature. Under the act the board is authorized to "employ suitable persons to lecture before the State board of agriculture at its annual or other meetings and in the counties of the State." The executive committee of the board has delegated the management and conduct of the institutes to its secretary. Thirty-one institutes were held last season, made up of 119 sessions. Twelve of these institutes were one-day, 18 were two-day, and 1 three-day. The total attendance was 6,850. Thirty-eight lecturers were employed during the season upon the State force, and \$2,000 was expended for meeting the expenses. No report of the proceedings is published.

Independent institutes, averaging two meetings in each of the eighteen counties, were held, with an attendance of about 50 each. The State director usually furnishes a speaker when requested to lecture before these independent or auxiliary institutes. There are no specific local organizations for institute work in the State. The director invites the members of county boards, granges, and farm clubs to aid him in the work of arranging for the county meetings. In most places the dates, places, and programmes are prepared by the State director. The local communities are expected to provide proper meeting rooms and pay all expenses for heat and light. The director attends almost all of the institutes, and in many instances takes a place regularly upon the platform as a lecturer.

#### NEW MEXICO.

Population 195,310. Total number of homes 46,355. Number of farm homes 13,102. Per cent of farm homes 28.3. Approximate population in farm homes 55,272.

Director of institutes.—Luther Foster, President of College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and Director of the Experiment Station, Mesilla Park.

The farmers' institute work in New Mexico is under the direction of the agricultural college and experiment station. There is no specific legislation providing for the organization or control of the institute work. The expenses are met by appropriations made by the

board of regents of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and of the experiment station. Three institutes were held last year, having a total of 13 sessions. Three hundred and seventy-five persons were in attendance, and five lecturers, all members of the station staff, gave instruction at these meetings. The total expense amounted to \$125. No report of proceedings is published. The citizens in the localities where institutes are held pay all the expenses of the meetings except those incurred by the State lecturers. The advertising of the institutes is committed to the localities in which the meetings are to be held.

### NEW YORK.

Population 7,268,894. Total number of homes 1,634,523. Number of farm homes 227,822. Per cent of farm homes 13.9. Approximate population in farm homes 1,010,376.

Director of institutes.—F. E. Dawley, Fayetteville.

The director of institutes is appointed by the commissioner of agriculture under authority of an act of the legislature creating the department of agriculture. The law simply provides for the appointment of the director of institutes and for the appropriation of funds to conduct them, leaving the organization and management entirely in the hands of the State institute director. Last year 312 institutes were held, made up of 1,363 sessions. One hundred and six of these institutes were one-day, 202 were two-day, and 4 were three-day. The total attendance was 138,528. Sixty-six lecturers were upon the State corps, and \$20,000 was appropriated for carrying on the work. As many as five separate corps of speakers are in the field at the same time. An annual meeting of the lecturers upon the State force has been held for the purpose of normal instruction. The director contemplates extending the course so as to continue for about two weeks, the meetings to be held at the State experiment station and at Cornell University. The State speakers in New York are all listed under the civil service, and the director reports that there has been no serious trouble from the rulings of the Civil Service Commission. A special effort has been made to develop institute lecturers, and the large number of efficient men now on the New York State force is evidence of the success of the director in this respect.

An annual report of institutes, amounting to 25,000 copies, was printed and the copies distributed by the State director and by members of the legislature. The local, or county, organization varies. Usually a local committee is selected by the State director to have charge of the arrangements for holding the county meetings. The dates, places, and programmes are arranged by the director. Each locality is required to provide a hall free of expense. The State pays the expenses for advertising and also for lighting and heating of the hall.



The director frequently furnishes speakers for independent institutes that are held under the auspices of granges, farm clubs, or agricultural societies. The attendance at these independent institutes last year is reported as 2,320.

#### NORTH CAROLINA.

Population 1,893,810. Total number of homes 370,072. Number of farm homes 223,831. Per cent of farm homes 60.5. Approximate population in farm homes 1,145,755.

Director of institutes.—S. L. Patterson, Commissioner of Agriculture, Raleigh.

By act of assembly it is made the duty of the commissioner of agriculture of North Carolina, by and with the consent and advice of the board of agriculture, "to hold farmers' institutes in the several counties of the State as frequently as may be deemed advisable in order to instruct the people in improved methods in farming, in the beneficial use of fertilizers and composts, and to ascertain the wants and necessities of the various farming communities; and may collect the papers and addresses made at these institutes and publish the same in pamphlet form, annually, for distribution among the farmers of the State. He may secure such assistants as may be necessary or beneficial in holding such institutes."

Fifteen institutes were held last year, composed of 25 sessions, and attended by 1,525 persons. Eight instructors were upon the State lecture force, five of whom were members of the agricultural college and station staffs. Representatives of these institutions attended every institute, giving in the aggregate 51 days of their time. Six hundred dollars was appropriated by the board of agriculture for defraying the expenses of the work. The commissioner of agriculture is elected by the people for a term of four years. One thousand dollars has been set aside by the board for institute purposes for the coming season.

No annual report has been published. The local organization for the counties consists of a chairman, secretary, and committee on programmes. The director holds institutes upon request of the various localities. The local expenses are provided for by the community in which the institute is held. Announcement of the dates, places, and speakers is made by publication in the newspapers and through the distribution of posters.

#### NORTH DAKOTA.

Population 319,146. Total number of homes 64,690. Number of farm homes 44,112. Per cent of farm homes 68.2. Approximate population in farm homes 217,657.

Director of institutes.—E. E. Kaufman, Professor of Dairying, North Dakota Agricultural College, Agricultural College.

The farmers' institute board is provided for by an act of assembly



approved March 13, 1903. The board is composed of the president of the board of trustees of the North Dakota Agricultural College, the commissioner of agriculture and labor, the director of the experiment station, the professor of agriculture and the professor of dairying of the North Dakota Agricultural College. It is made the duty of the board "to employ a director of farmers' institutes and such other lecturers as may be deemed necessary; to authorize the holding of not less than 40 institutes each year."

Nineteen institutes were held last year consisting of 67 sessions. Three institutes were one-day, and 16 were two-day. The total attendance is reported as 2,655. The number of speakers on the State lecture force is 11, and \$1,500 was appropriated for carrying on the work. Four of the State speakers were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs. Representatives of these institutes were present at 6 institutes, contributing 14 days of time. The proceedings are published in an institute annual, of which 10,000 were distributed at subsequent institute meetings and through the mail. The institute board appoints all State lecturers. An institute committee in each county is selected by the State institute board to look after the advertising and make such special arrangements as are necessary for the successful conduct of the meetings. The dates, places, and programmes are all arranged by the State director, and notices of meetings are published about four weeks in advance. The State director is appointed by the State farmers' institute board for one season. A number of independent institutes were held by local farmers' societies with an estimated attendance of 225. The institute meetings are advertised by means of large posters, through the publication of the programmes by local newspapers, and by postal-card invitations sent out through the mail. The act of the legislature of 1903 increased the appropriation for institute purposes to \$8,000 per year.

#### OHIO.

Population 4,157,545. Total number of homes 944,433. Number of farm homes 280,068. Per cent of farm homes 29.7. Approximate population in farm homes 1,237,790.

Director of institutes.—W. W. Miller, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Columbus.

The farmers' institute work in Ohio is organized under the provisions of an act passed April 26, 1890, and amended April 27, 1896. Under this act whenever "twenty or more persons, residents of any county in the State, organize themselves into a farmers' institute society, adopt a constitution and by-laws agreeable to rules and regulations furnished by the State board of agriculture; and when such society shall have elected proper officers and performed such other

acts as may be required by the rules of the State board of agriculture, such society shall be deemed a body corporate." Not more than four farmers' institute societies in any county are permitted to hold annual meetings under the auspices of the State board of agriculture. The secretary of the State board of agriculture has charge of the farmers' institute work under the general direction of the board. Section 3 of the act provides for the maintenance of farmers' institutes through the levy of a direct tax. Ohio is the only State that has adopted this method of institute support. The section is as follows:

When a society organized under the provisions of this act shall have held an annual farmers' institute meeting in accordance with the rules of the State board of agriculture, the secretary of said board shall issue certificates, one to the president of the farmers' institute society and one to the president of the State board of agriculture, setting forth these facts, and on the presentation of these certificates to the county auditor, he shall each year draw orders on the treasurer of the county as follows: Based on the last previous national census, a sum equal to three mills for each inhabitant of the county in favor of the president of the State board of agriculture and a sum equal to three mills for each inhabitant of the county in favor of the president of the farmers' institute society, where but one society is organized; but in counties where there are more than one farmers' institute society organized under the provisions of this act and holding meetings under the auspices and by the direction of the State board of agriculture, the said three mills for each inhabitant shall be equally apportioned among such societies, and warrants in the proper amounts issued to the respective presidents, and the treasurer of the county shall pay the same from the county fund: *Provided*, That in no county shall the total annual sum exceed two hundred and fifty dollars: *And provided further*, That the payment to any institute society shall not exceed the expense, as per detailed statement, provided in section four of this act.

The act, it will be seen, provides permanent county institute organization and secures to each a substantial fund for support. The State board of agriculture, under rules which it is authorized to prescribe, gives specific instructions for the formation of local societies and directs how reports shall be made out, and directs the details to be observed in conducting their institute meetings. The State lecturers are required to devote their time and efforts to the discussion of such subjects as are designated by the institute law, namely, "farming, stock raising, fruit culture, and all branches of business connected with the industry of agriculture."

Two hundred and sixty-three institutes were held last year consisting of 1,250 sessions. All of these were two-day institutes. Eighty-one thousand seven hundred and fifty-two persons were in attendance. The State teaching force consisted of 29 members and the total expense incurred was \$16,981. Ten thousand copies of reports of the proceedings were published and distributed. All of the local expenses are met by the counties from their portion of the per capita tax. The dates and places for institutes are arranged by the State director, and the programmes are submitted to him by local societies

for approval. The dates, places, and speakers are announced about forty days in advance of December 1, which is the beginning of the institute season. The institutes are advertised locally by the county societies. Twenty-eight independent institutes were held during the year by local organizations. The attendance reported was 8,681.

#### OKLAHOMA.

Population 398,331. Total number of homes 86,908. Number of farm homes 63,094. Per cent of farm homes 72.6. Approximate population in farm homes 289,188.

Director of institutes.—J. B. Thoburn, Secretary Board of Agriculture, Guthrie.

The formation of a State board of agriculture, consisting of six members and the governor, who is a member *ex officio*, is authorized under a recent act of the Territorial legislature. The six members of this board are elected by delegates from county institutes, whose organization is provided for in the act. Wherever not less than fifteen farmers, residents in one county, shall apply to the secretary of the Territory he is required to issue a charter of incorporation and the organization shall thereafter be known as the county farmers' institute for such county. These county institutes are required to hold an annual meeting at the county seat, at which matters pertaining to agriculture shall be discussed and one delegate be elected to attend the annual meeting of the board of agriculture. These delegates at their annual meeting elect two members of the State board of agriculture, whose terms are for three years, and the law provides that this board "shall have supervision of the county farmers' institute system." The board elects its secretary and assigns his duties, one of which is the management of the farmers' institutes.

Last year 29 institutes were held: Twenty-three one-day, 5 two-day, and 1 three-day. There were 36 sessions. One thousand dollars was appropriated for conducting the work. Six speakers were upon the institute force, all members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, and contributing twenty days of their time. The local expenses of the institutes are provided for by the county institute societies. The dates of institutes are fixed by the county organizations at their annual meetings, and they also assist the State director in preparing programmes. No report of the institute proceedings is published.

#### OREGON.

Population 413,536. Total number of homes 91,214. Number of farm homes 36,156. Per cent of farm homes 39.6. Approximate population in farm homes 163,760.

Director of institutes.—James Withycombe, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Corvallis.

Oregon has no law regarding farmers' institutes. Those that are



held are under the direction of the State agricultural college and experiment station, and are voluntary on the part of these institutions. Last year 20 institutes were held, ten one-day and ten two-day, the total number of sessions being 60. Four thousand persons were in attendance. There were six lecturers upon the State force, all of whom were from the college and experiment station staffs. They contributed in the aggregate 240 days of time. The sum of \$300 was expended in carrying on the work. No report of proceedings is published. The sum of \$1,000 has been appropriated for institute purposes for the coming year. There is no regular form of organization for the several counties. The director arranges the dates and places after consultation with the localities desiring institutes.

### PENNSYLVANIA.

Population 6,302,115. Total number of homes 1,320,025. Number of farm homes 225,565. Per cent of farm homes 17.1. Approximate population in farm homes 1,077,661.

Director of institutes.—A. L. Martin, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

Under the Pennsylvania law the deputy secretary of agriculture, who is appointed by the governor for a term of four years, is also director of farmers' institutes. He is required to "arrange them in such manner as to time and places of holding the same as to secure the greatest economy and efficiency of service, and to this end he shall, in each county where such institutes are to be held, confer and advise with the local member of the State board of agriculture, together with representatives duly appointed by each county agricultural, horticultural, and other like organizations, with reference to the appointment of speakers and other local arrangements."

The institutes are supported by biennial appropriations by the legislature to the department of agriculture. The number of institutes held last year were 327, consisting of 831 sessions. Forty-nine of these institutes were one-day, 277 two-day, and 1 three-day. There were 58 lecturers upon the State force. The amount appropriated for the support of the institutes was \$15,000. Partial reports are published in the annual report of the department. Thirty-one thousand six hundred copies of this report are published and distributed annually. The Pennsylvania State College and the Agricultural Experiment Station were represented on the institute lecture force by four members, who contributed in the aggregate 108 days of their time and attended 58 institutes. The local organization consists of a county chairman, who is usually the member of the State board of agriculture elected by the county agricultural society, and one representative from each of the other county agricultural organizations. All of the expenses of the institute work, including the local expenses in the several counties, are paid out of the State appropriation. The



State director fixes the dates and the county committees select the places and prepare the programmes. About 75 independent institutes were held last year by farmers' clubs, granges, and county agricultural societies. The State is divided into five sections for institute purposes, and the institute director furnishes three lecturers for each section.

A feature of the work in this State has been the prescribing of one or two important topics, requiring them to be placed upon every programme for discussion throughout the State. The training of institute lecturers so as to increase the number of efficient instructors in the institute work is made an important feature by the State director.

#### PORTO RICO.

Farmers' institutes have not yet been organized in Porto Rico.

#### RHODE ISLAND.

Population 428,556. Total number of homes 94,179. Number of farm homes 5,638. Per cent of farm homes 6. Approximate population in farm homes 25,713.

Director of institutes.—John G. Clarke, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Providence.

Farmers' institutes in Rhode Island are conducted under authority granted by the general assembly in an act passed May 19, 1892, section 4 of which is as follows: "The board shall hold one agricultural institute in each county annually, either independently or in connection with any society or association, or other organization devoted to the same general objects, and may hold as many more as it shall deem expedient, and shall, as far as practicable, encourage State and local associations and societies in the interest of agriculture." The secretary of the State board of agriculture is charged with the duty of arranging for and holding institutes, the expenses of which are paid by the board out of an annual appropriation of \$15,000. One institute was held in this State, with a total attendance of 20. One lecturer was upon the State force. The total expense was \$44.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

Population 1,340,316. Total number of homes 269,864. Number of farm homes 152,993. Per cent of farm homes 56.7. Approximate population in farm homes 759,959.

Director of institutes.—J. S. Newman, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Clemson College.

There is no special law in this State authorizing the holding of farmers' institutes. Institutes, however, are held under authority granted by the board of trustees of Clemson Agricultural College. A committee of this board makes out the programme for the year and appoints an officer to take charge of the work of conducting the meet-

ings. Thirty-one institutes were held with an equal number of sessions. The total attendance was 8,690. Eleven lecturers were on the State force, and the total expense of the institutes was \$1,000. Eight members of the college and station staffs contributed thirty days of time to institute work. The programme for each institute is arranged at the college before the season begins, and the college pays the entire expenses connected with the meetings.

Nineteen institutes for negroes were conducted by the Colored Normal Industrial, Agricultural, and Mechanical College under the direction of President Thomas E. Miller. The attendance aggregated 5,700, and thirty-five days of the time of the college staff were given to the work. The expense of the institute amounted to \$150. No report of the proceedings was published.

### **SOUTH DAKOTA.**

Population 401,570. Total number of homes 83,536. Number of farm homes 51,937. Per cent of farm homes 62.2. Approximate population in farm homes 249,776.

There has been no legislation in South Dakota relating to farmers' institutes and no institutes were held during the past year.

### **TENNESSEE.**

Population 2,020,615. Total number of homes 402,536. Number of farm homes 226,027. Per cent of farm homes 56.2. Approximate population in farm homes 1,135,585.

Director of institutes.—W. W. Ogilvie, Commissioner of Agriculture, Nashville.

Tennessee has no special law respecting farmers' institutes. An appropriation is made to the department of agriculture by the legislature to be used by the commissioner for institute purposes. The commissioner has complete control of the work, selects the lecturers, arranges the programmes, and decides the places and times for holding the meetings. Forty institutes were held last year at a cost of \$2,500. Seven members of the agricultural college and station staffs contributed 125 days of their time in giving instruction at institute meetings. Ten thousand persons are reported as having been in attendance.

The death of the former commissioner, who had charge of the institute work during the past season, has made it impossible to secure full statistical data. A general farmers' institute was held at the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Knoxville, June 23 to 26, at which there were estimated to be about 1,200 farmers, mostly from eastern Tennessee. The meetings were addressed by members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, as well as by lecturers secured from other States. The appropriation for institute purposes for the coming year has been increased to \$5,000.

**TEXAS.**

Population 3,048,710. Total number of homes 589,291. Number of farm homes 341,889. Per cent of farm homes 58. Approximate population in farm homes 1,768,251.

Director of institutes.—R. L. Bennett, Agricultural and Mechanical College, College Station.

The legislature at its last session made an appropriation for the salary of a superintendent of farmers' institutes. The board of directors of the college has also set aside out of its general funds an amount sufficient to pay the traveling expenses of the superintendent. Until the present year the farmers' institutes were held under an organization known as the Texas Farmers' Institutes. The expenses were met by an agricultural paper that paid the salary of a director of institutes and such other expenses as were involved in carrying on the work. Sixty-four institutes were held during the year, made up of 180 sessions. Five thousand three hundred and seventy-six persons were in attendance and the total cost was \$2,100.

Local institutes have been organized in many of the counties of the State. The director, however, with but few exceptions, arranges the dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. All of the local expenses are met by the citizens of the community in which the institutes are held, including the entertainment of the State lecturers. No report of proceedings is published.

There has been organized in this State the Farmers' Boys Progressive League, intended to reach the boys and girls out upon the farms, and to assist and interest them in the higher forms of agricultural life and practice. Any boy or girl between the ages of 14 and 20, living on the farms or ranches of the southwest, can become a member and will be entitled to certain privileges which the constitution of the league provides. For the present they are engaged in cultivating crops, the seeds of which were furnished by the Texas Farmers' Congress. A report of their work is to be made to the county farmers' institute and prizes are offered for products that are specially meritorious.

**UTAH.**

Population 276,749. Total number of homes 56,196. Number of farm homes 19,529. Per cent of farm homes 34.8. Approximate population in farm homes 96,308.

Director of institutes.—John A. Widtsoe, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Logan.

Farmers' institutes in Utah are by law under the direction of the trustees of the agricultural college, who are "authorized and required to hold institutes." There must be held at least one institute in each county during each school year, at such times and such places as the



trustees and faculty of the agricultural college may direct. The sum of \$1,500 is appropriated for institute purposes, to be expended by the board of trustees of the college. Under the provisions of this act it is made the duty of those conducting institutes to encourage and assist in the organization of local agricultural societies. The course of instruction must be so arranged as to "present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture."

Forty institutes were held during the year, consisting of forty sessions. Three thousand two hundred people were in attendance. Ten lecturers were upon the State institute force, all of whom were members of the college faculty or experiment station staff. Five thousand copies of the reports of proceedings are printed and distributed. A committee of the faculty, under the direction of the president, arranged for all institute work. The dates, places, and programmes are fixed by this committee. All of the local expenses incurred in holding meetings are paid out of the State appropriation.

#### VERMONT.

Population 343,641. Total number of homes 81,462. Number of farm homes 32,871. Per cent of farm homes 40.4. Approximate population in farm homes 138,830.

Director of institutes.—C. J. Bell, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, East Hardwick.

The farmers' institute work of Vermont is under the control of the State board of agriculture. This board is composed of the governor, the president of the University of Vermont and State agricultural college, and three other persons appointed by the governor. They hold office for two years. The board is required to "hold one meeting in each county annually, and others if deemed expedient, and may employ lecturers, essayists, or other aid in conducting said meetings, managing its affairs generally, and discharging its duties. At such meetings it shall present subjects for discussion and, among other topics, forestry, tree planting, roads, and road making."

Forty-one institutes were held last year, consisting of 108 sessions. Sixteen thousand four hundred persons were in attendance. Twenty-six lecturers constituted the State force, and \$5,000 was appropriated for meeting the expenses. The board publishes annually 3,000 copies of its report, which includes the proceedings of the farmers' institute. The dates, places, and programmes for institutes are arranged by the State director. The free use of hall is required to be provided by the community, the State board defraying the other local expenses. A number of independent institutes were held, having an estimated attendance of about 500.



**VIRGINIA.**

Population 1,854,184. Total number of homes 364,517. Number of farm homes 170,412. Per cent of farm homes 46.8. Approximate population in farm homes 867,758.

Director of institutes.—G. W. Koiner, Commissioner of Agriculture, Richmond.

The board of agriculture of the State of Virginia is required to hold "farmers' institutes at such times and at such places throughout the State as it may deem necessary for the advancement of agricultural knowledge and the improvement of agricultural methods and practices, and publish and disburse such papers and addresses read or made at these institutes as promise to be of value to the farming interests."

The duty of arranging for and conducting farmers' institutes is placed in the hands of the secretary of the board. Last year 72 institutes were held, composed of 144 sessions, attended by 18,000 persons. Three lecturers were upon the State force. The agricultural college and station staffs attended four institutes and contributed eight days of time. All of the expenses of the institutes are borne by the department of agriculture. An appropriation of \$3,500 has been made by the State board for the expenses of institutes during the coming year.

**WASHINGTON.**

Population 518,103. Total number of homes 113,086. Number of farm homes 33,931. Per cent of farm homes 30. Approximate population in farm homes 155,430.

Director of institutes.—E. A. Bryan, President Washington Agricultural College, Pullman.

The law of the State of Washington, in defining the purposes of the Washington Agricultural College and School of Science declares that "one of the objects of the State college shall be to hold farmers' institutes at such times and places and under such regulations as the board of regents may determine." An act of the legislature of 1903 requires that "at least one institute shall be held in each county in each year."

The sum of \$2,500 is appropriated for institute purposes. Twelve institutes were held during the past season, attended by 1,800 people. Three members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs were upon the State lecture course and contributed thirty days of their time.

**WEST VIRGINIA.**

Population 958,800. Total number of homes 186,291. Number of farm homes 94,566. Per cent of farm homes 50.8. Approximate population in farm homes 487,070.

Director of institutes.—J. B. Garvin, Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Charleston.

The law of West Virginia places the control of the farmers' institutes in the hands of the State board of agriculture. Under this act

the board is required to "promote and encourage as far as practicable the holding of farmers' institutes, the organization of agricultural and horticultural societies and other associations in the interest of agriculture in the several counties of the State. \* \* \*" It is directed to "hold farmers' institutes for the instruction of the farmers of the State in the various branches of agriculture. Such institutes shall be held at such times and places in each year as the said board may direct. The said board shall make such orders and regulations as it may deem proper for organizing and conducting such institutes and may employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as they may deem best." The course of instruction in such institutes shall be so "arranged as to present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical farming." One hundred and fifty-eight institutes were held last year; 23 were one-day, 135 were two-day, together comprising 632 sessions. Fifteen thousand seven hundred and fifty persons were reported in attendance. Sixteen lecturers were upon the State force, four of whom were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who attended 17 institutes and contributed forty days of their time. Five thousand four hundred and fifty-one dollars was appropriated for institute work.

There is no law requiring the formation of local institute associations, but the board of agriculture has had prepared a set of by-laws which they recommend to local communities for adoption for the purpose of securing a local farmers' institute society in every county in the State. The director of institutes is appointed by the State board of agriculture for a period of two years. The board arranges the dates of the institutes and assigns two of its members to be present at each. The entire expense of the institutes is paid out of the appropriation made to the State board of agriculture. The reports of the proceedings of the several institutes are required to be sent in to the secretary of the board and are printed in an agricultural periodical issued under the direction of the State board of agriculture.

#### WISCONSIN.

Population 2,069,042. Total number of homes 436,063. Number of farm homes 169,531. Per cent of farm homes 39.8. Approximate population in farm homes 823,478.

Director of institutes.—George McKerrow, Madison.

The board of regents of the State University is authorized by the law of Wisconsin to "hold institutes for the instruction of citizens of this State in the various branches of agriculture. Such institutes shall be held at such times and at such places as said board may direct. The said board shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem

proper for organizing and conducting such institutes, and may employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as they may deem best."

One hundred and twenty institutes were held during the year. Twenty were one-day institutes, 99 were two-day, and 1 three-day, aggregating 566 sessions. The total number reported in attendance was 55,000. Twenty-two lecturers were upon the State force, two of whom were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who contributed four days of time. The amount appropriated for institute expenses was \$12,000. Sixty thousand copies of the farmers' institute bulletin, containing the proceedings of the institutes, were published and distributed. The local expenses of the institutes are provided for by the citizens of the community in which the institute is held. The meetings are placed upon request of the various localities. Petitions are sent in to the director of institutes and, through these, meetings are granted in the discretion of the State director. Fifteen thousand posters and 45,000 programmes of the meetings were sent out from the State office last year, as well as notices of institute meetings to all the papers in the section in which the meetings were held. The arranging of the dates, places, and programmes is in the hands of the institute director, and announcements of the times, places, and speakers are made about one month in advance of the institute season. The special topics for discussion last year were live stock and dairying. The institute director is elected by the board of regents of the university, nominated by the president of the university and dean of the agricultural college, and recommended by the farm committee. He takes a place regularly on the programme as a lecturer, and is in the field during the entire season in which institutes are held.

#### WYOMING.

Population 92,531. Total number of homes 20,116. Number of farm homes 5,939. Per cent of farm homes 29.5. Approximate population in farm homes 27,296.

Director of institutes.—Charles W. Lewis, President of the University of Wyoming, Laramie.

Farmers' institutes have not been organized in Wyoming, and there is no legislation providing for their organization or support. The faculty of the State University and the experiment station staff have undertaken to conduct a series of institute meetings during the coming year.



*Number of institutes held and the approximate attendance during the year ended June 30, 1903.*

States and Territories.	Number of one-day institutes.	Number of two-day institutes.	Number of three or more days institutes.	Total.	Total number of sessions.	Total at- tendance.
Alabama.....	22			22	50	2,618
Arizona.....				2	20	1,000
California.....	12	45	3	60	254	20,000
Colorado.....	6	2	2	10	20	1,300
Connecticut.....	8		1	9	25	4,000
Delaware.....	21	7		28	67	4,800
Florida.....	20	1		21	42	2,900
Georgia.....	14	1		15	32	3,500
Hawaii.....	4			4	4	160
Idaho.....	5	12		17	75	2,550
Illinois.....		68	40	108		42,876
Indiana.....	3	178		181	858	73,653
Iowa.....		50	14	64	348	17,750
Kansas.....	82	10		92	204	38,085
Kentucky.....	2	6		8		2,000
Louisiana.....	48		2	50	134	13,245
Maine.....	40			40	83	5,846
Maryland.....	22	18		40	116	11,222
Massachusetts.....	120			120	154	12,487
Michigan.....	213	70	1	284	885	53,037
Minnesota.....	85	15		100	238	35,171
Mississippi.....	56	2		58	122	10,000
Missouri.....	50	76	1	127		25,400
Montana.....	16			16	32	600
Nebraska.....	23	38	4	65	268	25,000
Nevada.....		3		3	18	983
New Hampshire.....	18			18	36	6,300
New Jersey.....	12	18	1	31	119	6,850
New Mexico.....	1	1	1	3	13	375
New York.....	106	202	4	312	1,363	138,528
North Carolina.....	15			15	25	1,525
North Dakota.....	3	16		19	67	2,655
Ohio.....		263		263	1,250	81,752
Oklahoma.....	23	5	1	29	36	
Oregon.....	10	10		20	60	4,000
Pennsylvania.....	49	277	1	327	831	112,550
Rhode Island.....	1			1	1	20
South Carolina.....	{ 50			50	50	{ 5,700
Tennessee.....				40		8,690
Texas.....				64	180	10,000
Utah.....	40			40	40	5,376
Vermont.....	41			41	108	3,200
Virginia.....	72			72	144	16,400
Washington.....	3	9		12		18,000
West Virginia.....	23	135		158	632	1,800
Wisconsin.....	20	99	1	120	566	15,750
Wisconsin.....	20	99	1	120	566	55,000
Total.....	1,359	1,637	77	3,179	9,570	904,654



*Financial statistics of the farmers' institutes for the year ended June 30, 1903.*

States and Territories.	Funds appropriated for institutes.		Cost.		Appropriations for the season 1903-4.
	State.	College and other funds.	Total cost.	Cost per session.	
Alabama .....	\$600.00		\$600.00	\$12.00	\$800.00
Arizona .....		\$60.00	60.00	3.00	2,700.00
California .....		4,000.00	3,400.00	56.00	6,000.00
Colorado .....		385.00	385.00	19.00	.....
Connecticut .....	700.00		700.00	28.00	700.00
Delaware .....	700.00	100.00	800.00	12.00	600.00
Florida .....	2,500.00		2,500.00	38.00	2,500.00
Georgia .....		1,000.00	1,000.00	22.00	1,000.00
Hawaii .....		35.00	35.00	9.00	150.00
Idaho .....	1,000.00		1,000.00	36.00	1,000.00
Illinois .....	18,150.00		18,150.00	.....	19,650.00
Indiana .....	10,000.00		10,000.00	10.50	10,000.00
Iowa .....	7,425.00		5,000.00	14.00	7,425.00
Kansas .....	2,000.00		2,000.00	10.00	2,000.00
Louisiana .....	2,000.00		2,000.00	15.00	2,000.00
Maine .....	3,000.00		3,000.00	36.00	3,000.00
Maryland .....	4,000.00		4,000.00	34.50	4,000.00
Massachusetts .....	2,000.00		1,717.00	16.35	2,700.00
Michigan .....	7,500.00		5,838.00	6.59	7,500.00
Minnesota .....	16,500.00		16,500.00	50.00	18,000.00
Mississippi .....	1,500.00		1,500.00	25.86	1,500.00
Missouri .....	4,000.00		4,000.00	32.00	5,000.00
Montana .....	2,000.00		2,631.00	82.00	4,000.00
Nebraska .....	4,000.00		4,000.00	15.00	6,000.00
Nevada .....		120.00	120.00	6.66	1,000.00
New Hampshire .....	1,000.00		1,000.00	25.00	.....
New Jersey .....	2,000.00		1,800.00	15.00	2,000.00
New Mexico .....		125.00	125.00	9.60	.....
New York .....	20,000.00		20,000.00	14.73	20,000.00
North Carolina .....	600.00		600.00	24.00	1,000.00
North Dakota .....	1,500.00		1,158.00	17.30	4,000.00
Ohio .....	16,981.00		16,981.00	13.58	16,750.00
Oklahoma .....	1,000.00		1,000.00	.....	.....
Oregon .....		300.00	300.00	5.00	1,000.00
Pennsylvania .....	15,000.00		15,000.00	18.00	17,500.00
Rhode Island .....	44.00		44.00	44.00	.....
South Carolina .....		1,120.00	1,120.00	32.00	1,000.00
Tennessee .....	2,500.00		2,500.00	.....	5,000.00
Texas .....		2,100.00	2,100.00	11.66	3,000.00
Utah .....	1,500.00		1,500.00	37.50	1,500.00
Vermont .....	5,000.00		2,907.00	26.70	5,000.00
Virginia .....				.....	3,500.00
Washington .....	2,500.00		2,500.00	.....	2,500.00
West Virginia .....	5,451.00		5,451.00	34.50	6,000.00
Wisconsin .....	12,000.00		12,000.00	15.00	12,000.00
Total .....	176,651.00	9,845.00	179,022.00	933.03	210,975.00

*Comparative statement of farmers' institutes.*

States and Territories.	Appropriations.		Number of sessions.	Number of institutes.		Attendance.	
	1901-2.	1902-3.		1901-2.	1902-3.	1901-2.	1902-3.
Alabama .....	\$600	\$600	50	24	22	2,616	2,618
Arizona .....		60	20	2	2	350	1,000
California .....	4,000	4,000	254	63	60	20,000	20,000
Colorado .....		385	20	15	10		1,300
Connecticut .....		700	25	12	9	5,000	4,000
Delaware .....	600	800	67	15	28	3,055	4,800
Florida .....	2,500	2,500	42	22	21	3,300	2,900
Georgia .....		1,000	32		15		3,500
Hawaii .....		85	4	4		180	160
Idaho .....	500	1,000	75	50	17	17,000	2,550
Illinois .....	18,150	18,150		110	108	39,187	42,876
Indiana .....	10,000	10,000	858	201	181	40,000	73,653
Iowa .....	7,425	7,425	348	65	64	6,500	17,750
Kansas .....	2,000	2,000	204	102	92	32,450	38,085
Kentucky .....		1,200			8	1,600	2,000
Louisiana .....	2,000	2,000	134	38	50	7,500	13,245
Maine .....	3,500	3,000	83	37	40	5,920	5,846
Maryland .....	4,000	4,000	116	36	40	1,500	11,222
Massachusetts .....		2,000	154	128	120	2,176	12,487
Michigan .....	7,500	7,500	885	255	284	101,000	53,037
Minnesota .....	16,500	16,500	238	69	100	27,205	35,171
Mississippi .....	1,500	1,500	122	40	58	8,000	10,000
Missouri .....	4,000	4,000		104	127	10,000	25,400
Montana .....	2,000	2,000	32	17	16	1,200	600
Nebraska .....	4,000	4,000	268	86	65	25,800	25,000
Nevada .....		120	18	1	3		983
New Hampshire .....		1,000	36	40	18	4,000	6,300
New Jersey .....	600	2,000	119	17	31	5,000	6,850
New Mexico .....		125	13		3		375
New York .....	20,000	20,000	1,363	269	312	94,688	138,528
North Carolina .....	322	600	25	17	15	1,700	1,525
North Dakota .....	1,500	1,500	67	27	19	9,967	2,655
Ohio .....	16,784	16,981	1,250	278	263	94,655	81,752
Oklahoma .....		1,000	36	11	29	1,150	
Oregon .....		300	60	19	20	3,335	4,000
Pennsylvania .....	15,000	15,000	881	189	327	144,431	112,550
Rhode Island .....		44	1	1	1	30	20
South Carolina .....	1,051	1,150	50	31	50	10,100	14,390
Tennessee .....	2,016	2,500			40		10,000
Texas .....		2,100	180		64		5,376
Utah .....	1,500	1,500	40	44	40		3,200
Vermont .....	4,000	5,000	108	50	41	10,000	16,400
Virginia .....			144	47	72	14,100	18,000
Washington .....		2,500		31	12	1,500	1,800
West Virginia .....	5,000	5,451	632	75	158	15,000	15,750
Wisconsin .....	12,000	12,000	566	122	120	48,800	55,000
Total .....	170,548	187,226	9,570	2,764	3,179	819,995	904,654

*Number of lecturers employed by the State directors of farmers' institutes during the year ended June 30, 1903.*

States and Territories.	Total number of lecturers on the State force.	Number of members of agricultural college and experiment station staffs engaged in institute work.	Number of institutes attended by members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs.	Number of days contributed to the institute work by the agricultural college and experiment station staffs.	Total number of days of institutes held during the year.	Reports of proceedings.	
						Published.	Number of copies.
Alabama .....	11	8	22	52	22	No. ....	.....
Arizona .....	4	4	2	22	16	No. ....	.....
California .....	23	13	60	131	111	Yes. ....	10,000
Colorado .....	9	9	10	65	16	No. ....	.....
Connecticut .....	21	.....	.....	.....	11	Yes. ....	5,000
Delaware .....	19	4	10	15	35	No. ....	.....
Florida .....	22	2	21	30	22	Yes. ....	5,000
Georgia .....	8	9	13	16	16	No. ....	.....
Hawaii .....	.....	.....	4	.....	4	No. ....	.....
Idaho .....	9	6	17	60	29	Yes. ....	6,000
Illinois .....	84	7	13	23	256	Yes. ....	.....
Indiana .....	39	.....	.....	.....	359	Yes. ....	600
Iowa .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	142	No. ....	.....
Kansas .....	16	19	90	200	102	No. ....	.....
Kentucky .....	11	3	5	15	14	.....	10,000
Louisiana .....	13	.....	.....	.....	54	.....	3,500
Maine .....	9	.....	.....	.....	40	Yes. ....	6,000
Maryland .....	7	7	40	56	58	No. ....	.....
Massachusetts .....	68	8	14	28	120	No. ....	.....
Michigan .....	97	.....	.....	.....	356	Yes. ....	8,000
Minnesota .....	13	1	19	19	115	Yes. ....	30,000
Mississippi .....	15	9	58	25	60	Yes. ....	18,000
Missouri .....	31	10	127	120	205	No. ....	.....
Montana .....	16	4	8	32	16	Yes. ....	5,000
Nebraska .....	33	.....	.....	.....	111	No. ....	.....
Nevada .....	5	5	3	9	6	No. ....	.....
New Hampshire .....	14	.....	.....	.....	18	Yes. ....	2,000
New Jersey .....	38	.....	.....	.....	51	No. ....	.....
New Mexico .....	5	5	3	43	6	No. ....	.....
New York .....	66	.....	.....	.....	522	Yes. ....	25,000
North Carolina .....	8	5	15	51	15	No. ....	.....
North Dakota .....	11	4	6	14	35	Yes. ....	10,000
Ohio .....	29	.....	.....	.....	526	Yes. ....	10,000
Oklahoma .....	6	6	7	20	36	.....	.....
Oregon .....	6	6	20	240	30	No. ....	.....
Pennsylvania .....	58	4	58	108	606	Yes. ....	31,600
Rhode Island .....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	Yes. ....	.....
South Carolina .....	12	9	31	65	50	No. ....	.....
Tennessee .....	7	7	40	125	.....	.....	.....
Texas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No. ....	.....
Utah .....	10	10	.....	.....	40	Yes. ....	5,000
Vermont .....	26	.....	.....	.....	41	Yes. ....	3,000
Virginia .....	3	3	4	8	72	.....	.....
Washington .....	3	3	12	30	21	.....	.....
West Virginia .....	16	4	17	40	293	Yes. ....	.....
Wisconsin .....	22	2	3	4	221	Yes. ....	60,000
Total .....	924	196	752	1,666	4,880	.....	253,700



